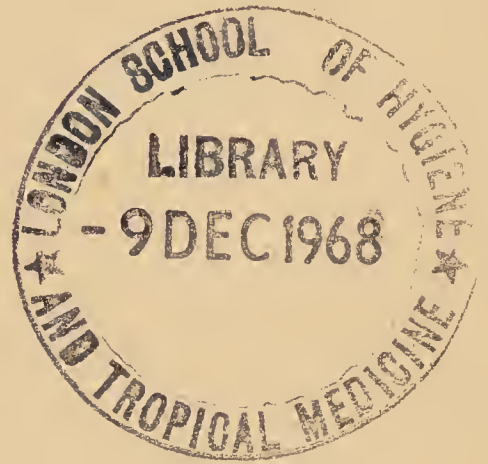


COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN



Report
on the
Health
of the
County Borough of Wigan
1967

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN



Report *on the* *Health* *of the* *County Borough of Wigan* *1967*

J. HAWORTH HILDITCH,
Medical Officer of Health.
Principal School Medical Officer.
Medical Referee of the Borough Crematorium.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30276743>

CONTENTS

[illegible]

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 1967 (Appointed 24th May, 1967)

Chairman	....	....	....	Alderman J. T. LYNCH, J.P.	
Vice-Chairman	....	....	....	Alderman J. BOWDEN	
The Mayor	....	....	....	Councillor J. TABERNER, J.P.	
Aldermen	....	....	....	H. DOWLING, J.P.	T. MONKS
Councillors	....	....	....	F. CONNOLLY	Mrs. M. PRATT
				J. T. FARRIMOND	J. RANKIN
				C. FOSTER	A. S. ROBINSON
				G. LEWTHWAITE, J.P.	S. SHERRATT
				Mrs. E. NAYLOR (from 5.12.67)	
				Miss A. PEET	J. E. SMITH
Co-opted Members	....	....	....	Mr. R. D. DICKSON, J.P.	Dr. D. W. JOHNSON
				Mrs. S. BAMBER	Mrs. C. RAYNER, J.P.
				Dr. F. G. INCE	

STAFF, 1967

Medical Officer of Health	....	J. HAWORTH HILDITCH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Vict.)
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	....	T. L. O'DONNELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (to 31-7-67)
Assistant Medical Officers	....	R. McLEAN BAIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
		A. F. HOWARTH, M.B., B.Ch.
Dental Officer	....	S. M. AALEN, L.D.S.
Public Analyst	....	J. GRAHAM SHERRATT, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.
Chief Public Health Inspector	....	J. B. MARSH, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	....	P. STRAFFORD (a) (b) (h)

Senior Public Health

Inspectors E. J. FRANKLIN (*a*) (*b*) (*h*) (from 3.4.67).
 E. HARRIS (*a*) (*b*) (*h*)
 E. MARSDEN (*a*) (*b*) (*h*)
 K. PARKIN (*a*) (*b*)
 M. RICHARDS (*a*) (*b*) (*h*) (from 1.5.67).

District Public Health

Inspectors J. INESON (*a*) (*b*) (*h*)
 C. LIVESEY (*a*) (from 1.8.67).
 A. NOAKES (*a*) (*b*) (from 20.3.67).
 K. SIMM (*a*) (*b*) (*h*)
 S. G. WILLIAMS (*a*) (*b*) (to 30.11.67).

Superintendent Health

Visitor E. M. WRIGHT (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (*g*)

Health Visitors P. ALKER (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) to 30.6.67).

F. M. L. DAVIES (*c*) (*d*) (*e*)

F. GREEN (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (from 1.9.67).

*B. I. HIGGINS (*c*) (*d*) (*e*)

C. JACKSON (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (*g*) (to 31.12.67).

J. P. JAMES (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (to 31.3.67).

M. E. MILLS (*c*) (*d*) (*e*)

M. OLDFIELD (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (from 1.9.67)

M.A. PEACOCK (*c*) (*d*) (*e*)

Z. M. VERNON (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (*f*) (*g*) (to 30.11.67).

M. J. WALMESLEY (*c*) (*d*) (*e*)

Tuberculosis Visitor E. CODY (*c*) (*d*)

Family Case Worker W. STEELS

Supervisor of Midwives W. KAY (*c*) (*d*)

Midwives:

M. AINSWORTH (c) (d)	L. HOLCROFT (c) (d)
J. A. BIRCH (c) (d)	F. O'DWYER (c) (d)
P. G. DAWBER (c) (d)	M. QUINN (c) (d)
M. C. DIX (c) (d)	B. RICHARDSON (c) (d)
W. M. DOHERTY (c) (d) (g) (from 1.11.67).	C. K. SWIFT (c) (d) (from 24.6.67).
L. FORSYTH (c) (d) (to 30.6.67).	P. WAITE (c) (d)
D. HITCHEN (c) (d)	

Day Nursery Matron M. F. LUCAS (d) (f)

Superintendent of the Home Nursing
Service E. WILSON (d) (g)

Home Nurses:

D. AUGURIO (d) (g)	P. M. LOWE (d)
L. BANKS (d) (g)	M. MOLLOY (d)
K. BARON (i)	V. PYKE (d) (to 31.3.67).
F. DIXON (i) (from 1.11.67)	A. REIGATE (c) (d) (g)
W. M. DOHERTY (c) (d) (g) (to 31.10.67)	S. SAXON (d) (to 16.12.67).
M. FAIRHURST (i) (to 30.11.67).	*D. SHARPLES (d) (from 4.12.67).
E. M. GARDNER (d) (g) (to 30.11.67).	JOHN M. WALKER (d) (g)
P. N. HOLROYD (d) (from 24.4.67).	K. WEBSTER (i)
V. HURST (d)	
A. KELLY (d) to (12.11.66).	

Junior Training Centre Supervisor J. HANSON

Senior Training Centre Manager E. HILTON

Mental Health Service:

Senior Mental Welfare Officer	J. A. PIETRE, B.A.
Mental Welfare Officers	E. I. DAVISON
	A. TAYLOR, C.S.W., A.M.S.M.W.O.
	J. WARRILOW

Welfare Services:

Senior Assistant	A. SIMM
Welfare Officers	H. A. SPEAKMAN
	P. SHAW

Ambulance Service:

Ambulance Superintendent	C. R. HILL
Senior Chiropodist	S. R. AINSWORTH, S.R.C.
Lay Administrative Officer	G. CREE, D.M.A. (to 21.5.67).
	W. W. MARKLAND, D.M.A.
	(from 22.5.67).

* Part-Time Officers.

- (a) Public Health Inspectors Certificate.
- (b) Meat Inspectors Certificate.
- (c) Certificate, Central Midwives Board.
- (d) State Registered Nurse.
- (e) Health Visitors Certificate.
- (f) Registered Fever Nurse.
- (g) Queen's Nurse.
- (h) Smoke Inspectors Certificate.
- (i) State Enrolled Nurse.

INTRODUCTION

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the County Borough of Wigan.

"A system organises itself, if interaction is undisturbed. Organisation owes nothing to the surveyor. It is in no sense pre-arranged. The surveyor provides just news."

W. H. AUDEN, 'The Orators'

It is pleasant to commence this report on an encouraging note and to draw attention to the increase in the population, the housing stock and the rateable value of the borough. After many years of declining population we are experiencing a definite change in trend. That this is not entirely due to immigration is shown by increasing birth rate, now standing at 18 (16.4 in 1965). It would appear that the turning point occurred in 1955 when the rate reached a record low level at 13.79. Yet another factor has been the reduction in the infant death rate to 16.27, a figure which compares very favourably with that for the other Lancashire boroughs and with the rate for England and Wales (18.3). There was, however, a considerable increase in the number of stillbirths, resulting in a rise of seven points over the rate for the previous year. The main reduction in infant deaths occurred during the neo-natal period, *i.e.* the first four weeks after birth. The perinatal death rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and stillbirths), 26.78, was higher than in the previous year, 24.23 but still compared very favourably with the average for the other county boroughs in the North West.

There were two maternal deaths during the year.

There is still no sign of a reduction in the deaths from bronchitis and pneumonia and the number of deaths from cancer of the lungs increased from 29 to 45, giving a death rate from this cause of .56.

The Maternity and Child Welfare services continue to develop, one highlight being the official opening of the Pemberton Health Centre by His Worship the Mayor on May 3rd. The versatile building had already proved its worth by the end of the year and was housing both local health authority and voluntary services. It is disappointing that we have so far been unable to persuade the local general practitioners to use it but the climate of opinion on the use of health centres by general practitioners is changing rapidly throughout the country. There may soon be a waiting list for accommodation and ancillary services such as this building provides. The rapidly expanding population in the Winstanley area called for urgent measures to provide infant welfare services, which led to the opening in April of a welfare centre in Highfield Church Hall. This has proved to be most popular.

The ante-natal service was to some extent reorganised in August after the post of Deputy Medical Officer of Health became vacant. Shortage of medical staff with suitable experience led to the substitution of midwives ante-natal clinics with the booked general practitioner taking full responsibility for the case. This system has proved to be reasonably satisfactory but has had the unexpected effect of reducing the patients seen at the monthly consultant ante-natal clinic in Wigan almost to single numbers at each session. At the close of the year negotiations were in progress with the Regional Hospital Board and the consultant obstetrician to re-establish this service which was most useful for many multiparous mothers who could ill afford the time and expense of attending at Billinge Hospital.

Domiciliary births accounted for 31% of the total in the borough but the midwives had to cope with an increasing number of mothers and babies discharged before the tenth day of the puerperium. There were in fact almost a thousand in this category, of which only some 200 were planned 48-hour discharges. Clearly there is room here for more co-ordination between the hospital and local authority services to offset the considerable staffing problems being experienced in the hospital services.

Continued shortage of health visitors in spite of the generous student training scheme has again held up the programme for attachment to group practices. The depleted force of health visitors does however manage to maintain contact with the family doctors and assist with many of the social problems arising in the practices. It is a great pity that failure to recruit to the profession in sufficient numbers is standing in the way of proper advancement. The field of work is opening up in new and interesting directions, yet failure to grasp the opportunities may be responsible for much of what is new being transferred to other social work disciplines.

Yet another reflection of the difficulties in staffing being experienced by the hospital service was the 12% increase in the number of visits made by the Home Nursing Service. Close liaison between the sisters in charge of surgical and medical wards and the Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service has ensured continuity of nursing care. Our thanks are due again to the Marie Curie Foundation, whose generosity has enabled help to be given to some 55 difficult terminal cases.

The Family Service Project which was the subject of a special report in 1966 continues to progress satisfactorily and at the close of the year almost half the task of rehabilitating the Orlit houses and their occupants had been completed. There are still many difficulties to be overcome and a more intimate knowledge of the families throws up many unexpected social problems not connected with the district or with housing. The report of the Family Case Worker on page 40 makes interesting reading.

The take-up of vaccination and immunisation is far from satisfactory, particularly in the first two years of life, although we do achieve a useful extra bonus during the first year in school. It is said that only the constant written reminder from the computer dropped through the letter box will improve the proportion of those willing to have their offspring protected free of charge.

The Ambulance Service has contained yet another increase in the number of patients carried. The main problem associated with the non-emergency cases continues to be the 'peaking' of demand at certain times in the day, particularly at the beginning and end of hospital consultant sessions. Without undue regimentation this is extremely difficult to overcome.

New ground has been broken in the expanding field of health education. Besides arranging features stressing the dangers of chronic alcoholism, cigarette smoking and drug addiction, the health education officer has visited schools to talk to children on the important subject of dental hygiene. Perhaps the most interesting work concerned a series of lectures given to a mixed audience of teenagers and their parents with the curiosity-arousing title "Adventures in Family Relationships."

Cervical cytology clinics are now an established feature of the work of the department and strenuous efforts are made through the medium of the press and by lectures to selected groups in an effort to sustain the interest of the women at risk. Besides disclosing the presence of cervical pre-cancer still in

an eminently treatable stage, the simple screening technique has uncovered many suspected yet treatable conditions which could be responsible for a degree of minor irritation and subnormal health.

The senior mental welfare officer has reported fully on the work of the section on page 59. For the first time in many years we were fully staffed but experience teaches that to ensure a comprehensive service as envisaged by the Mental Health Act, 1959, our staff establishment requires revision. The number of cases referred for preventive action increased and this, together with the decrease in actual admissions to hospital of the mentally ill, may be taken as an indication of the measure of success attending the work of your officers. Yet another encouraging feature of the service is the fact that at the end of the year we had no waiting list for retarded persons requiring permanent hospital care.

The Day Care Unit for psycho-geriatric patients now housed at the Pemberton Health Centre is proving most successful. It is not generally realised how large in terms of numbers of people and the scope of the services which they require is the problem posed by the elderly mentally infirm. Only a small fraction of these persons are cared for in hospital or other residential units. By far the greater number sit at home alone, or with relatives; the former slowly disintegrating socially and becoming more and more isolated, the latter often becoming more and more unwelcome as they become more dependent. The day centre, with its accent on re-socialisation through active participation and chit-chat over the midday meal, leaves less time for introspection, brooding and dozing—that insidious enemy of a good night’s sleep. Improvement may be slow to see in individual cases but the arrest of social deterioration alone is worth the effect and modest cost of the project. The need for provision of continuous residential care in the community for these unfortunate elder citizens will occupy our thoughts in the years to come. It may well be that a special hostel will be required for those who need more care and supervision than can be given in their own homes or even in warden-controlled flatlet accommodation. The present policy has been to integrate a small number into each of the existing hostels but this limited accommodation will be insufficient to meet the future needs.

The table of comparative notifications of infectious disease 1958 – 1967 on page 71 is interesting. Even allowing for the inevitable failure to notify the trends are unmistakable. One would like to think that the Department had been largely responsible for the gradual elimination of cases of dysentery and food poisoning. Of the childhood diseases only measles occurs with any frequency and the introduction of a reliable measles vaccine during 1968 should, if it proves acceptable, alter this picture very rapidly. The possible danger associated with an age-shift of this disease into susceptible adults is a factor to be faced in the future.

The Welfare Services Section, although hampered by absence of staff in training, has had a busy year. Administrative procedures and case work associated with the growing number of warden-controlled flatlets and bungalows has taken much time but is well worthwhile. One is conscious on entering these units that the degree of independence left with these residents is an extremely valuable factor in preventing the ‘institutionalisation’ which is still a feature of hostel life in spite of the strenuous efforts of staff to overcome it. Hostels are however housing more and more residents with multiple physical and mental problems. It is by no means unusual to find that more than half the residents in “Springfield” are using wheelchairs or walking aids.

The Chief Public Health Inspector has reported at length upon the services

under his immediate control. Suffice it to say that as predicted the re-organisation of staff has enabled us to recruit and retain inspectors of the quality required to carry out the important tasks associated with the Council's Slum Clearance and Redevelopment Schemes in various parts of the borough.

Demolition of empty unfit houses has almost doubled and the Council have earned an enviable reputation for the speed with which they have re-housed the displaced families. The Slum Clearance Programme will have been virtually completed in three years time but the task which looms ahead is the conservation of the remaining older houses and the regeneration of interest in the areas in which groups of those houses are situated.

With simplified legislative procedures it is hoped to revive selected areas, ensuring modern amenities both inside and outside the houses. Such schemes demand a large degree of co-operation between the owners and the staffs of the local authority who are responsible for inspection, advice and execution of the work. Your inspectors are at present engaged upon a complete survey of the housing stock preparatory to recommending areas suitable for general improvement.

The year as usual brought many staff changes, including on this occasion the resignation of Dr. T. L. O'Donnell, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, upon his appointment to a post in his native Scotland. The department was still without a deputy medical officer of health at the close of the year and some of our services were inevitably affected. Your Administrative Officer, Mr. Cree, left on obtaining a post with the City of Leicester. We wish them well in their new spheres and thank them for the valuable contribution to our service during their tenures of office.

We have become accustomed to a more rapid turnover in staff but the replacement of almost 50% of the home nurses and health visitors in a period of about twelve months raises serious problems of continuity of care which are difficult to overcome and place a continual strain on the section leaders.

The year under review has been unique in at least one respect. In the higher echelons of local government administration, in the local authority health and social services and in the hospital services, one has sensed the mounting tension as personnel await the publication of documents which will doubtless affect the future of many at present employed in these fields. Uncertainty and delay in arriving at decisions in the light of the reports must be avoided, if we are not to see staff drift away to services or to areas which appear to offer continuity and stability. The North West is not particularly attractive to those who are unfamiliar with its rather unexpected charm. We can ill afford to lose staff to the Midlands and to the Southeast where larger units of local government have already been established.

In conclusion I express my thanks to the staff for the good work they have done throughout the year. My thanks are also due to the chief officers and technical staff of other departments for their help and advice from time to time and lastly to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Social Services Committee for their interest and support in our common task.

J. HAWORTH HILDITCH,

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH OFFICE,
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,
LIBRARY STREET.
WIGAN.

July, 1968.

Section I

**Natural and
Social Conditions
of the Area**

GENERAL

Area in acres	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	5,083
Rateable Value of the Borough, 31st December, 1967	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	£3,096,232
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	£11,950
Registrar General's estimated population on 1st July, 1967 (on which figure statistics in this report are based)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	79,720
Number of inhabited houses on the 31st December, 1967 (according to the Rate books)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	26,050
Number of marriages solemnized within the Borough during 1967								708

The Borough of Wigan forms a considerable part of the valley of the River Douglas. The river, which is the boundary on the north side, continues its course to the centre of the town and finally becomes the boundary at the west side. The levels on which the river enters and leaves are respectively 150 and 69 feet above sea level. Water taken from the river feeds the Leeds and Liverpool Canal which traverses the town. Due to the meagre drop in level the river water flows slowly and the bed is self-cleaning only during the winter months. The waters are badly polluted before they enter the borough and as a result of this and subsequent pollution the river maintains little or no life — plant nor animal. The maximum elevations of the town are at the extreme north 254 feet and at the south-west 260 feet. The lowest level is at the north-west boundary which is 69 feet above sea level.

Geologically, the whole of the Borough rests on the lower coal measures, or Gannister beds, which are here very superficial. The subsoil is mainly clay which in places has a depth of nearly 20 feet; but there is an important layer of sand covering a large part of the centre of the town and extending northwards in the direction of Standish. This sand is also found in "pockets" in other parts of the Borough. Much of the Western portion, beyond the Park lies on a fairly extensive gravel bed.

Extensive mining operations over several generations have brought about subsidence in many parts of the Borough. In some areas this has had a disastrous effect on property and is a constant source of worry both as regards the conditions of old sewers and water mains and planning sites for new buildings.

The population is essentially an industrial one, the principal industries being manufacture of coal mining equipment, iron and steel working, and the manufacture of clothing, telephone equipment, plastic hollow ware and paper board packing cases.

The development of the Lamberhead Green trading estate brought some light industry to the town but much more work of this sort is required. The Department of Employment and Productivity Remploy Factory caters for the disabled who are able to perform useful work.

In addition the availability of female labour in the town has prompted the opening of more factories for the machining of garments and the packaging of mail order goods.

The number of elderly citizens in the community is increasing. Many young married people, particularly in Social Classes III and IV, are moving out to the less congested dormitory areas on the periphery of the town. From here many return daily to seek their living in Wigan and invariably they use the facilities available in the Borough for education, recreation and shopping.

The Scholes redevelopment scheme is now well under way and as the flats, maisonettes and houses are completed it is remarkable to see the enthusiasm to return of many who have moved away from the centre of Wigan.

The movement is particularly noticeable amongst the older age group who value the "community" atmosphere and bustle associated with the busy town centre. After the period 1951 – 1964 during which the population declined it is encouraging to note the definite change in trend which has been evident for the past three years.

Section 11



Statistics

VITAL STATISTICS, 1966-67

	1966	1967
Area (acres)	5,083	5,083
Population (Estimated by Registrar General)	78,080	79,720
Live Births : Males 759 } Total		
Females 672 }	1,346	1,431
Rate per 1,000 population	17.24	18.00
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	5.35	5.03
Stillbirths : Number	16	26
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	11.75	17.77
Total Live and Stillbirths	1,362	1,457
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year)	26	23
Infant Mortality Rates:		
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births....	19.32	16.07
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	18.84	16.19
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	27.78	13.88
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	14.12	9.08
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	12.63	9.08
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	24.23	26.78
Maternal Mortality (including abortion):		
Number of Deaths	—	2
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	0.00	1.37
Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 Population (Area comparability factor 1.05)	18.10	18.85
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.02	1.10
Birth Rate for England and Wales	17.7	17.2
Deaths of Infants under 1 day old	7	6
Ditto. 1 year (legitimate)	24	22
Ditto. 1 year (illegitimate)	2	1
Excess of Registered Births over Deaths	349	332
Deaths : Males 566 } Total		
Females 533 }	997	1,099
Rate per 1,000 population	12.77	13.78
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 population (Area comparability factor 1.10)	14.05	15.18
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.20	1.36
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.7	11.2
Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 births for England and Wales	19.0	18.3

CAUSES OF DEATH WITH DEATH RATES, 1967

DISEASE								No. of Deaths	Rate
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory ...				...	...	...	5	.06
2.	Tuberculosis, Other ...				...	...	...	1	.01
3.	Syphilitic Disease ...				...	...	...	—	—
4.	Diphtheria ...				...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough ...				...	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infections ...				...	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis ...				...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles ...				...	...	...	—	—
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...				...	...	...	—	—
10.	Malignant Neoplasm Stomach ...				...	...	...	22	.28
11.	ditto	ditto	Lung, Bronchus ...		...	...	...	45	.56
12.	ditto	ditto	Breast ...		...	...	...	18	.23
13.	ditto	ditto	Uterus ...		...	...	...	10	.13
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...				...	...	...	76	.95
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...				...	...	...	7	.09
16.	Diabetes ...				...	...	...	5	.06
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...				...	...	...	176	2.22
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina ...				...	...	...	217	2.72
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease ...				...	...	...	17	.21
20.	Other Heart Disease ...				...	...	...	135	1.69
21.	Other Circulatory Disease ...				...	...	...	51	.64
22.	Influenza ...				...	...	...	10	.13
23.	Pneumonia ...				...	...	...	53	.66
24.	Bronchitis ...				...	...	...	82	1.03
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...				...	...	...	14	.18
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...				...	...	...	4	.05
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...				...	...	...	9	.11
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis ...				...	...	...	3	.04
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate ...				...	...	...	2	.02
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...				...	...	...	2	.02
31.	Congenital Malformations ...				...	...	...	7	.09
32.	Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases ...				...	...	...	80	1.00
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents ...				...	...	...	12	.15
34.	All Other Accidents ...				...	...	...	31	.39
35.	Suicide ...				...	...	...	5	.06
36.	Homicide and Operation of War ...				...	...	...	—	—
								1099	13.78

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH

1967

CAUSES	Sex	All Ages	Under 4 wks.	4 wks. to 1 yr.	AGE IN YEARS								
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-
ALL CAUSES ...	M.	566	6	5	2	—	6	4	20	47	133	184	159
	F.	533	7	5	1	2	3	2	21	24	59	142	267
1 Tuberculosis; Respiratory	M.	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	1
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 Tuberculosis, Other ...	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
3 Syphilitic Disease ...	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 Diphtheria ...	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Whooping Cough ...	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6 Meningococcal Infections	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7 Acute Poliomyelitis ...	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8 Measles ...	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	M.	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	4	1
	F.	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	3
11 Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...	M.	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	13	15	4
	F.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1
12 Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	2	4	4
13 Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	F.	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	1	2	1
14 Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M.	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	11	16	10
	F.	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	7	10	15
15 Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
	F.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
16 Diabetes ...	M.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F.	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—
17 Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	M.	77	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	13	25	30
	F.	99	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	13	26	58
18 Coronary Disease, Angina ...	M.	142	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	12	39	59	25
	F.	75	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	16	26	30

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH
1967—continued

[illegible]

Crude Death Rates for Wigan During the Last Ten Years

1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
11.57	11.07	12.04	13.91	12.57	13.26	12.48	13.22	12.77	13.78

INQUESTS AND UNCERTIFIED DEATHS

(Wigan Residents Only)

The number of inquests held during 1967 was 94, and the following verdicts were recorded:—

Natural Causes: 43

Accidents:

Road	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	12	
Fall	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	12	
Gas	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	4	
Burns	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	
Suffocation	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	
Fall into Electric Washer	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	
Fall into pit of boiling water at work	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	
Crushed on conveyor belt at work	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	
Roof fall at Colliery	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	34

Suicide:

Gas	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3	
Hanging	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	
Suffocation by placing head in plastic bag	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	5

Open:

Fall from window	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	
Gas	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	
Drowning	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	4	
Poisoning	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	
Road Accident	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	
Septic Abortion	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	
Tracheo Bronchitis (Circumstances in which there is insufficient evidence)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	12

—

94

—

DEATHS FROM CERTAIN RESPIRATORY DISEASES

Comparative Rates per 1000 population for the Past Five Years

Bronchitis

			1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Deaths ....	....	....	80	51	83	74	82
Rates ....	....	....	1.01	0.66	1.07	0.95	1.03

Pneumonia

Deaths ....	....	....	45	38	36	39	53
Rates ....	....	....	0.57	0.49	0.46	0.50	0.66

Pulmonary Tuberculosis

Deaths ....	....	....	3	4	4	6	5
Rates ....	....	....	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.08	0.06

Cancer of the Lung, Bronchus

Deaths ....	....	....	46	39	46	29	45
Rates ....	....	....	0.58	0.50	0.59	0.37	0.56

Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs

Deaths ....	....	....	14	17	18	10	14
Rates ....	....	....	0.18	0.22	0.23	0.13	0.18

Total from all Respiratory Causes

Deaths ....	....	....	188	149	187	158	199
Rate ....	....	....	2.38	1.92	2.40	2.03	2.49

CANCER

Deaths 1896-1967

	No.	Rate		No.	Rate
1896—1900	137	0.44	1931—1935	538	1.28
1901—1905	179	0.53	1936—1940	586	1.42
1906—1910	223	0.49	1941—1945	609	1.54
1911—1915	276	0.61	1946—1950	669	1.59
1916—1920	308	0.72	1951—1955	717	1.72
1921—1925	347	0.76	1956—1960	743	1.82
1926—1930	410	0.93	1961—1965	815	2.08
			1966—1967	323	2.05

CANCER
Localisation of Disease, Number of Deaths and Rate per 1,000
Population Annually for the past Ten Years

	1958		1959		1960		1961		1962		1963		1964		1965		1966		1967	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Uterus... ..	7	.09	6	.07	6	.07	4	.05	8	.10	12	.15	7	.10	6	.08	6	.08	10	.13
Stomach	33	.41	40	.49	29	.36	23	.29	21	.27	27	.34	24	.31	24	.31	23	.29	22	.28
Breast	14	.17	11	.14	14	.17	13	.17	12	.15	17	.22	14	.18	15	.19	14	.18	18	.23
Lung, Bronchus...	27	.33	40	.49	41	.50	45	.57	22	.28	46	.58	39	.50	46	.59	29	.37	45	.56
Other Sites... ..	52	.64	85	1.05	72	.89	64	.81	77	.98	79	1.00	83	1.07	87	1.12	80	1.02	76	.95
Total Deaths from Cancer ...	133	1.64	182	2.24	162	1.99	149	1.89	140	1.78	181	2.29	167	21.6	178	2.29	152	1.94	171	2.15
Total Deaths All Causes ...	941	11.57	959	11.82	975	12.04	1098	13.91	992	12.57	1045	13.26	964	12.48	1027	13.22	997	12.77	1099	13.78

ANALYSIS OF LIVE PREMATURE BIRTHS 1967

Weight at birth	Premature live births											
	Born in hospital				Born at home or in a nursing home							
					Nursed entirely at home or in a nursing home				Transferred to hospital on or before 28th day			
	Total Births	Died			Total Births	Died			Total Births	Died		
		within 24 hours of birth	in 1 and under 7 days	in 7 and under 28 days		within 24 hours of birth	in 1 and under 7 days	in 7 and under 28 days		within 24 hours of birth	in 1 and under 7 days	in 7 and under 28 days
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
1 2lb. 3oz. or less	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 Over 2lb. 3oz. up to and including 3lb. 4oz.	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Over 3lb. 4oz. up to and including 4lb. 6oz.	17	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
4 Over 4lb. 6oz. up to and including 4lb. 15oz.	36	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Over 4lb. 15oz. up to and including 5lb. 8oz.	51	1	—	—	15	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
6 TOTAL	111	7	2	—	15	—	1	—	3	—	—	—

INFANTILE AND MATERNAL MORTALITY

Infantile Mortality

The number of deaths of children under one year was 23, a rate of 16.07 per 1,000 births, and of children over one year and under five years 3, or .04 per 1,000 of the population. (In 1966 there were 26 deaths under one year, a rate of 19.32 per 1,000).

The deaths under one year occurred as follows:

HOME:	HOSPITALS:
3	11 Billinge Hospital
	6 Royal Albert Edward Infirmary
	2 Royal Children's Hospital, Manchester
	1 St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester

Of these, 13 *i.e.* 56% died during the first week of life.

The NEO-NATAL DEATH RATE (deaths per 1,000 live births on or before the 28th day of life) was 9.08. The numbers were:

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	6	7	13
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	6	7	13
	—	—	—

The PERINATAL RATE for the year was 26.75 compared with 24.23 in 1966 and 34.59 in 1965.

The average rates for the previous 30 years were as follows:

1937—1946	67.99
1947—1956	51.54
1957—1966	36.72

The STILLBIRTH RATE for the year was 17.77 compared with 11.75 in 1966 and 20.75 in 1965.

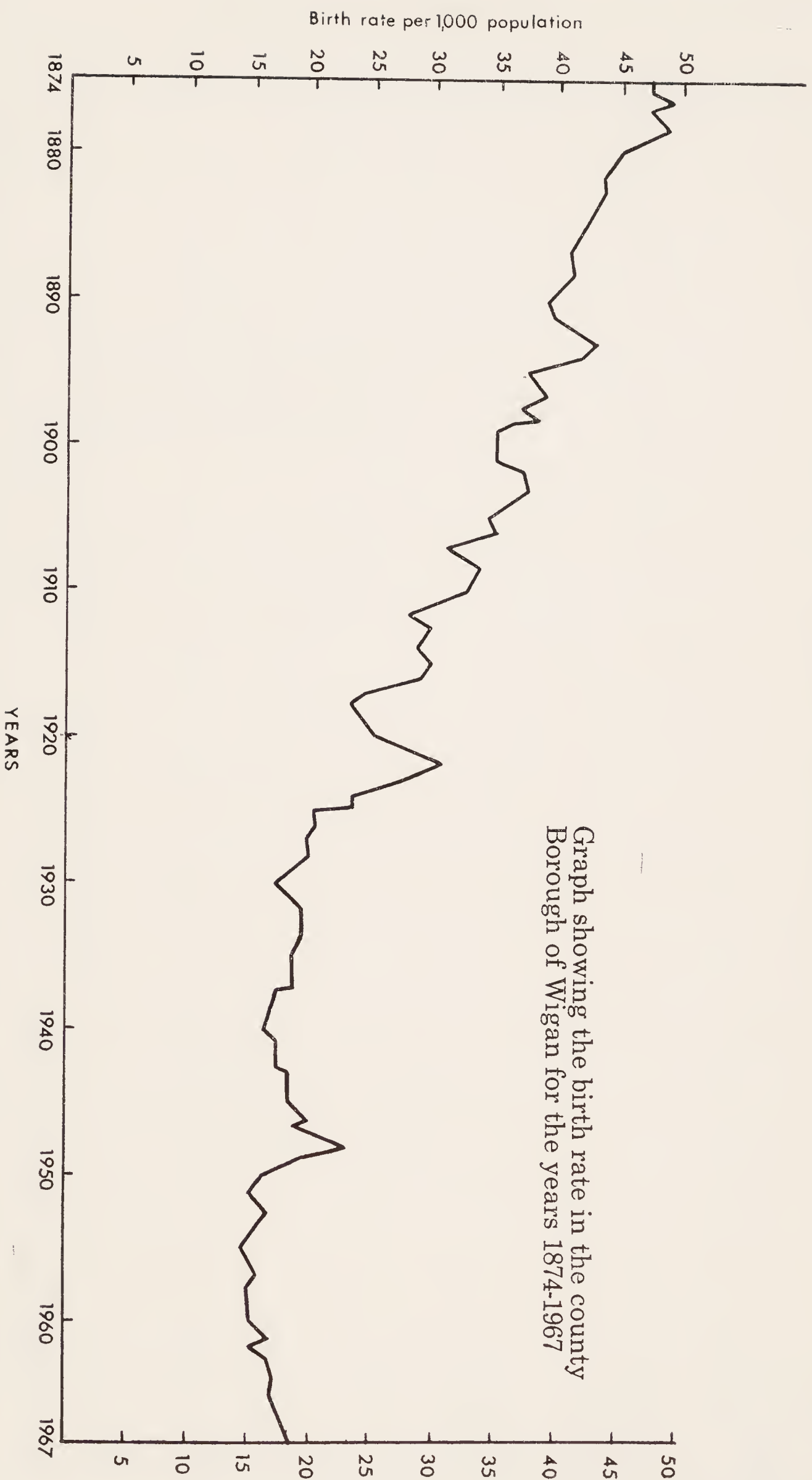
The average rates for the previous 30 years were as follows:

1937—1946	42.79
1947—1956	33.70
1957—1966	23.52

Again prematurity and congenital malformations figured prominently in the causes of infant death. None of the deaths due to prematurity could have been prevented in the present state of knowledge.

Maternal Mortality

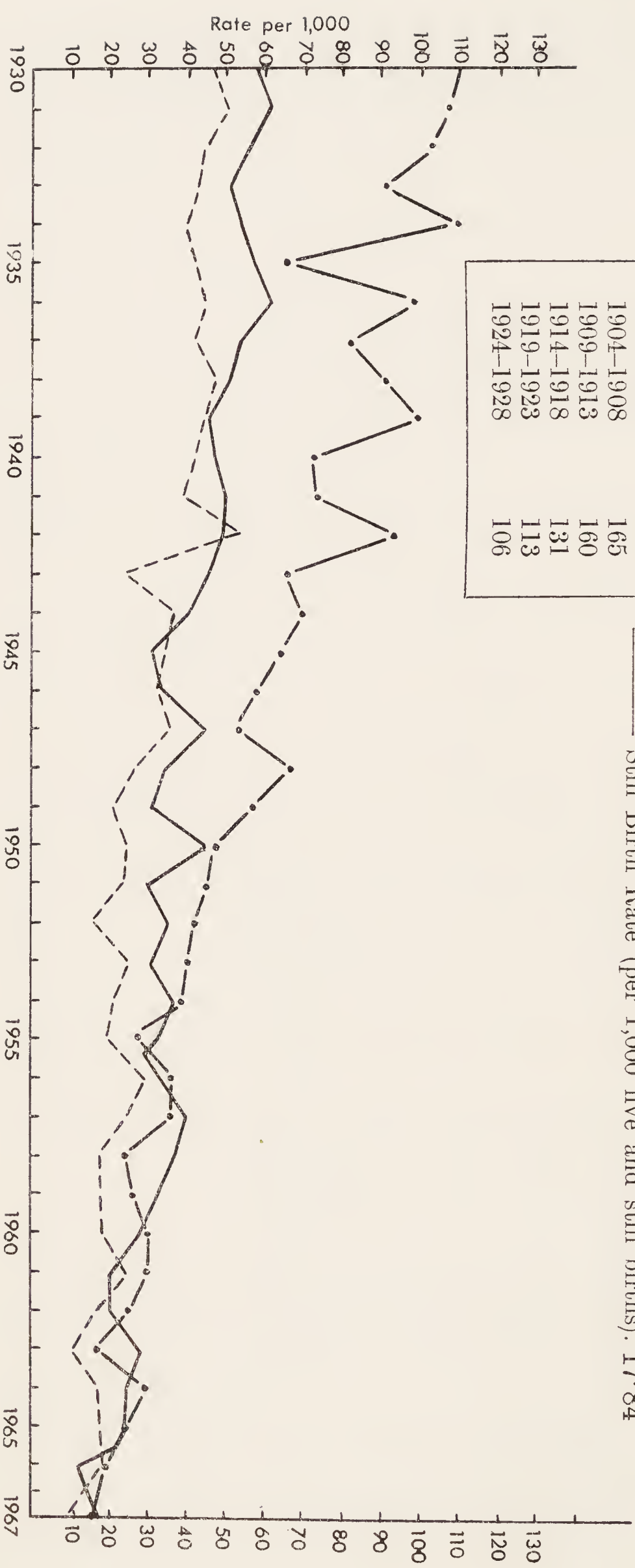
There were two maternal deaths during the year.



GRAPH showing the INFANT MORTALITY AND STILL BIRTH RATES
in the County Borough of Wigan for the years 1929—1967

Infant Mortality Rate	
5-year periods, 1874-1928	
1874-1878	200
1879-1883	177
1884-1888	171
1889-1893	184
1894-1898	175
1899-1903	184
1904-1908	165
1909-1913	160
1914-1918	131
1919-1923	113
1924-1928	106

— · — · — Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births). 16·07
- - - - - Neo-Natal Rate (per 1,000 live births). 9·08
———— Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births). 17·84



INFANT MORTALITY, 1967
Number of Deaths from Stated Causes at Various Periods
Under 1 Year of Age

CAUSE OF DEATH	Class No.	Under 1 day	DAYS										21-28	MONTHS										Total under 1 yr.
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	14-20	1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
Bronchopneumonia ...	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Bronchiolitis ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Tracheal Bronchitis ...	24	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Gastro Enteritis... ..	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Anencephalus ...	31	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Oesophageal Atresia ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hydrocephalus - Spina Bifida ...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Heart Disease ...	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Alectasis ...	32	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Prematurity ...	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Prematurity—Hyaline Membrane Disease	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Prematurity—Previable ...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Acute anaemia, abdominal haemorrhage, haemangioma of liver ...	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning—accidental	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Asphyxia while in his cot—accidental	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
		6	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	23

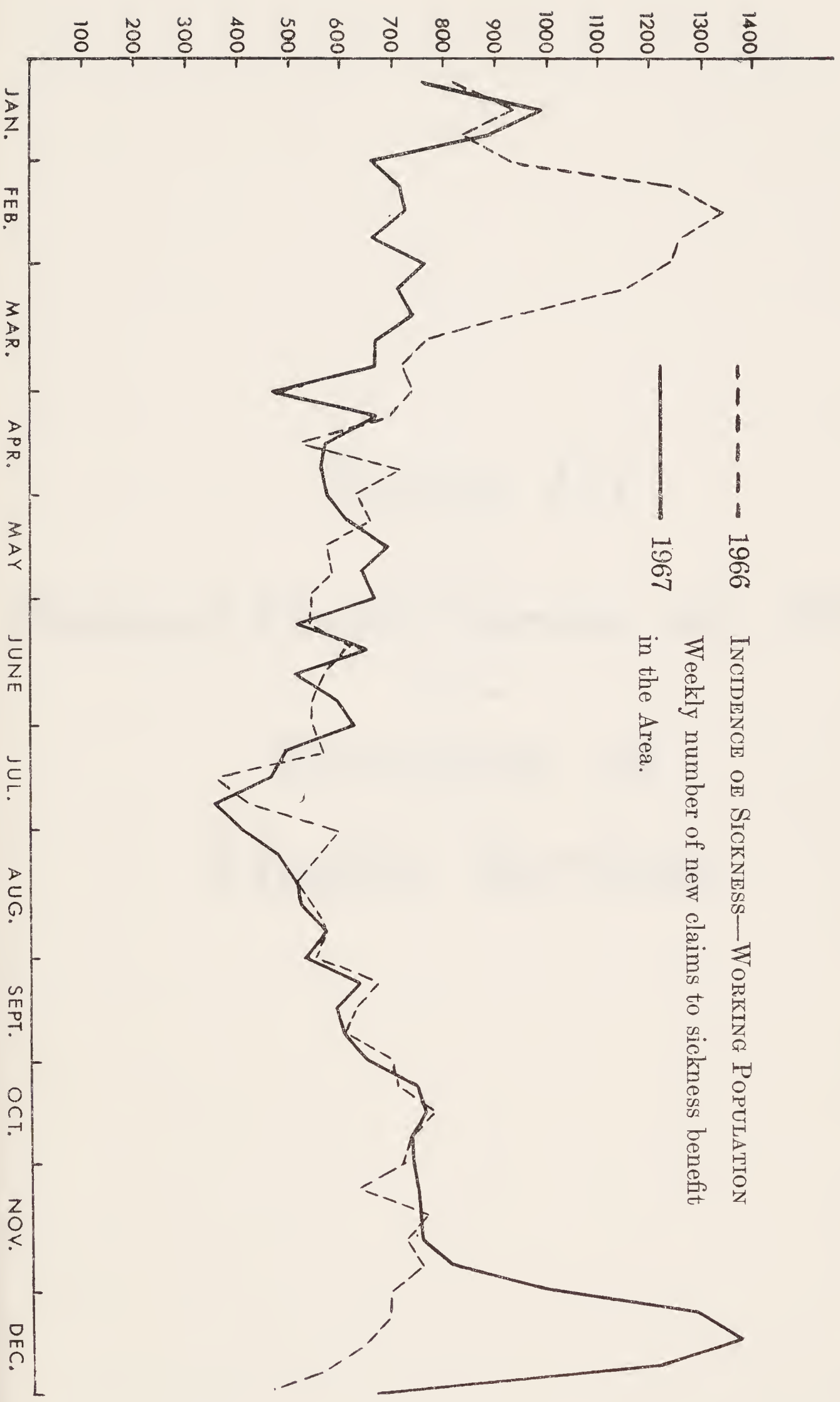
MORBIDITY**Wigan Area**

The figures given below, compiled by the local office of the Ministry of Social Security, indicate the number of persons applying for sickness benefit (first certificate only) week by week during the year 1967.

Jan.	3rd	....	762	July	4th	....	493
„	10th	....	991	„	11th	....	455
„	17th	....	891	„	18th	....	353
„	24th	....	667	„	25th	....	405
„	31st	....	712	Aug.	1st	....	489
Feb.	7th	....	719	„	8th	....	508
„	14th	....	665	„	15th	....	522
„	21st	....	767	„	22nd	....	571
„	28th	....	711	„	29th	....	530
Mar.	7th	....	730	Sept.	5th	....	633
„	14th	....	684	„	12th	....	599
„	21st	....	683	„	19th	....	601
„	28th	....	485	„	26th	....	650
April	4th	....	683	Oct.	3rd	....	744
„	11th	....	580	„	10th	....	763
„	18th	....	568	„	17th	....	736
„	25th	....	585	„	24th	....	737
May	2nd	....	608	„	31st	....	744
„	9th	....	692	Nov.	7th	....	750
„	16th	....	649	„	14th	....	752
„	22nd	....	664	„	21st	....	814
„	30th	....	523	„	28th	....	986
June	6th	....	635	Dec.	5th	....	1,282
„	13th	....	513	„	12th	....	1,373
„	20th	....	596	„	19th	....	1,216
„	27th	....	618	„	26th	....	669

The average weekly number of persons applying for sickness benefit decreased from 708 in 1966 to 688 in 1967. The average numbers of weekly claims per year have shown no regular pattern over the past ten years but it is interesting to note that over the past two years the average numbers of claims have been higher than in 1957, the year of the Asian flu epidemic.*

1951	....	....	496	1960	....	....	558
1952	....	....	382	1961	....	....	612
1953	....	....	475	1962	....	....	606
1954	....	....	507	1963	....	....	596
1955	....	....	476	1963	....	....	568
1956	....	....	510	1965	....	....	610
1957	....	....	670*	1966	....	....	708
1958	....	....	541	1967	....	....	688
1959	....	....	587				



Section III

National Health Service Act, 1946

**Provision of
Health Services**

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

The undermentioned Centres were open on the days and at the times stated:—

Centre	Days Open
GOOSE GREEN CLINIC Methodist Church, Sefton Road	Infant and Young Children's Clinic: Thursday afternoons, 2-00 to 4-00 p.m.
HIGHFIELD CLINIC: Parish Hall Billinge Road	Infant and Young Children's Clinic: Monday afternoons 2-00 to 4-00 p.m.
MARSH GREEN HEALTH CENTRE: Marsh Green	Infant and Young Children's Clinic: Wednesday afternoons, 1-30 to 3-30 p.m. Ante-Natal Clinic: Monday afternoons at 2-00 p.m.
PEMBERTON HEALTH CENTRE: Sherwood Drive	Cytology Clinic: By appointment on Thursday lunchtimes and Friday evenings. Infant and Young Children's Clinic: Monday afternoons, 2-00 to 4-00 p.m. Ante-Natal Clinic: Thursday afternoons at 2-00 p.m. A Consultant Obstetrician attends on one Thursday of each month.
SCHOLLES CLINIC: St. Catherine's Mission, Platt Lane	Toddler Clinic: Tuesday morning 9-30 to 11-30. Infant and Young Children's Clinic: Friday afternoons, 2-00 to 4-00 p.m.
SPRINGFIELD CLINIC: St. Andrews' Church House Woodhouse Lane	Infant and Young Children's Clinic: Tuesday afternoons, 2-00 to 4-00 p.m.
WIGAN HEALTH CENTRE: Millgate	Infant and Young Children's Clinic: Wednesday afternoons 1-30 to 4-00 p.m. Ante-Natal Clinic: Tuesdays, 10-00 a.m. and 2-00 p.m. A Consultant attends on one Thursday of each month. Post-Natal Clinic: On one Thursday each month at 2-00 p.m. Dental Clinic: by appointment Class for expectant mothers: Friday afternoons at 2-00 p.m. Orthopaedic Clinic: Open each Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, Surgeon attends once monthly. Cases from Ince, Hindley, Standish, Aspull, Haigh, Shevington and Platt Bridge also attend.
WORSLEY MESNES CLINIC: Dryden House Worsley Mesnes	Infants and Young Children's Clinic Tuesday afternoons, 2-00 to 4-00 p.m. Ante-Natal Clinic: Wednesday afternoons, 2-00 to 4-00 p.m. fortnightly.



Pemberton Health Centre

The Pemberton Health Centre in Sherwood Drive was opened on 3rd May by His Worship the Mayor, Councillor S. Taylor, J.P. The building is one of the two major health centres, the other being completed in 1939 at Millgate. The new building replaced the converted terraced house in Billinge Road which served as a clinic for many years, the Trinity Methodist Church, Fleet Street, which was hired for a Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic weekly, and the Dental Clinic in School Way, Pemberton.

The Centre incorporates a Day Care Unit for elderly infirm persons, and offices for health visitors, home nurses and the family case worker. A caretaker's flat is linked to the centre on the first floor. The Dental Clinic has its own dark room and X-ray equipment.

At present only the local authority and the Family Planning Association use the building but accommodation for group medical services could be offered if required, and should the need arise an additional suite of consulting and ancillary rooms could easily be added to extend these facilities.

The new premises became the venue of the Cervical Cytology Clinics and the Child Guidance Service. A clerk/typist was employed to serve the comprehensive range of clinics held there.

CARE OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS

Ante-Natal Care

General medical practitioners were booked to undertake the ante-natal care of expectant mothers in almost 96% of home confinements. The trend towards the more educational aspect of maternal welfare, including the instruction of mothers in personal and family hygiene and the dissemination of information to create the best psychological approach to the actual delivery, continued during the year.

Five ante-natal clinic sessions were held each week and the Deputy Medical Officer of Health attended two at the Central Centre, Millgate and one at Pemberton Health Centre, although this arrangement was discontinued from 31st July when the post of Deputy became vacant. A Consultant Obstetrician attended the Health Centre, Millgate for one session a month and midwives sessions were held weekly at Marsh Green Clinic and on alternate weeks at Worsley Mesnes Clinic.

Ante-natal care at clinics included the chest X-ray of expectant mothers and samples of blood were taken to test the Rhesus factor, the Wasserman reaction and haemoglobin content. Iron therapy, in the form of Ferrous Gluconate tablets, and supplies of welfare foods and vitamins were made available. Maternity outfits were provided by the midwives for domiciliary confinements and to patients discharged after 48 hours from Billinge Hospital.

Attendances at Ante-Natal Clinics

	WIGAN CENTRE		PEMBERTON		MARSH GREEN	WORSLEY MESNES
	Weekly Consultant Clinic	Weekly Consultant Clinic	Weekly Consultant Clinic	Weekly Consultant Clinic	Weekly Consultant Clinic	Clinic
Number of Primary Cases attending Clinic during the year	453	5	120	17	56	58
Total number of attendances	1,858	158	671	82	361	273

The statistics above indicate a reduction of 19% in the total number of attendances at ante-natal clinics. This reduction is directly attributable to the fact that the post of Deputy Medical Officer of Health was vacant from 31s July, 1967. †

Post-Natal Clinics

A Consultant Obstetrician held one post-natal session a month and nursing mothers were encouraged to attend for examination; no distinction was made between domiciliary and hospital confined patients. A total of 245 attendances was made comprising 192 new cases and 53 return cases.

Biopsy was carried out on two of the 36 women who underwent cytology examinations and 51 specimens were submitted for investigation.

Health Education for Expectant Mothers

A mothercraft training and exercise class for expectant primiparae is held at the Central Clinic every Friday afternoon. There are 16 classes in each series. Expectant mothers join in group discussion on mothercraft, diet, pregnancy, labour and general care of the infant. Maximum use of film and filmstrips is made. Relaxation exercises are taught and reassurance given to allay any fears which may exist. The classes are conducted by Health Visitors in a fairly informal manner. This makes for truly friendly, relaxed visits by the young mother-to-be. During 1967 there were 47 classes at which 446 attendances were made by expectant mothers.

Care of Unmarried Mothers

There is one residential home in Wigan for expectant and nursing unmarried mothers. It is under the control of the Liverpool Diocesan Church Council but is not restricted to Church of England members and the local authority pay a substantial amount yearly towards its maintenance. The home is registered as a nursing home under the Public Health Act, 1936, and the Nursing Homes Act, 1963.

The local health authority clinics were available to those resident in the Home until August, 1967, but this arrangement was discontinued owing to the lack of medical staff consequent upon the resignation of the Deputy Medical Officer of Health. Thereafter residents attended the Billinge Hospital where the deliveries took place. It seems probable that this arrangement will continue. Full ante-natal care is given to residents from the time of admission. The Home is visited regularly by a Health Visitor and this ensures liaison with staff. The Superintendent Health Visitor represents the Medical Officer of Health at the monthly meeting of the Wigan and District Moral Welfare Association, which deals with the work of the outdoor visitor and the Authority makes a small grant annually to the committee. Miss D. Smith, the Moral Welfare Worker participated in the two series of lectures arranged for parents of teenagers.

CARE OF CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE

Notification of Congenital Malformations

Local arrangements have been made for congenital malformations apparent at-birth to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health by the doctor or midwife notifying the birth. All concerned have co-operated fully in the scheme and there is no reason to doubt that notifications of all defects are being received. Notification of 50 congenital malformations were received in respect of 37 Wigan children born in 1967, a wide range of conditions being notified. Returns are made to the Registrar General in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 13/63.

Child Welfare Centres

The local authority has eight child welfare centres, at which one clinic is held each week. Each is in the charge of a Health Visitor and an Assistant Medical Officer attends the clinic sessions. During the year the numbers of persons attending were as follows:—

CLINIC	Attendances of Children			Total	Primary Cases	Cases examined by medical attendant	Mothers Attend'g
	under 1 year	over 1 and under 2	2 and under 5				
Central	1747	240	341	2328	312	1075	2028
Scholes	1259	172	347	1778	199	716	1528
Pemberton	1446	210	216	1872	222	938	1675
Worsley Mesnes	1595	259	151	2005	192	355	1854
Springfield	1639	260	399	2298	206	697	1976
Highfield	1082	275	262	1619	187	649	1354
Goose Green	1465	354	220	2039	198	403	1789
Marsh Green ...	969	189	386	1544	155	687	1290
	11202	1959	2322	15483	1671	5520	13494

There was an increase in the total clinic attendances from 15,199 to 15,483 which reversed the trend of 1966 over 1965 when attendances decreased by 1,906. This increase was achieved despite the fact that the Health Visiting service was understaffed throughout the year. The shortage of staff was, however, manifested in the decrease in attendances at the Central, Springfield and Marsh Green Clinics, as the Health Visitors were obliged to service enlarged areas in an effort to maintain the service in the Borough. Thus fewer visits were made to mothers and this resulted in decreased clinic attendances, which indicates that mothers will neglect to attend clinics regularly unless pressed to do so.

No consultant attends at the child welfare centres but cases are referred from them to the Paediatrician at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary. A Health Visitor attends the Paediatric and diabetic Clinic at the Infirmary weekly as liaison officer and advisor on the social aspects of the cases. Cases are also referred to the Infirmary for orthoptic treatment.

An Orthopaedic Surgeon attends the Central Clinic in Millgate one session each month. Breathing exercises and other treatment are given on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday each week by the Physiotherapist.

A Toddler Clinic is held each Tuesday morning at either the Central or Pemberton Clinic. An Assistant Medical Officer attends the session to which selected children are referred by Health Visitors.

Child Guidance

Since the departure in August, 1965 of Dr. J.F. Dunn, Consultant Child Psychiatrist, this important aspect of children's care has inevitably suffered. School and pre-school children from the Wigan Borough are seen by the medical staff of the department in urgent cases but it is quite impossible to give a comprehensive service without the necessary consultant advice. It is expected that a Consultant Child Psychiatrist will be appointed and that the service will be reintroduced at an early date.

Distribution of Welfare Foods

Ministry of Health Welfare Foods are distributed from the Welfare Foods shop which is situated in the Municipal Buildings and from the various Maternity and Child Welfare clinics in the Borough. Proprietary branded milk foods and vitamin supplements are also sold.

Ministry of Health Welfare Foods:

National Dried Milk	....	....	....	....	13,476	tins
Orange Juice	....	....	....	....	27,664	bottles
Cod Liver Oil	....	....	....	....	2,196	bottles
Vitamin A and D tablets	....	....	....	....	2,466	packets

Proprietary brands of foods and vitamin supplements:

Proprietary milks	46,593	packs
Vitamin supplements	....	....	....	....	10,983	packs
Rose Hip Syrup	....	....	....	....	8,906	bottles
Cereals	....	....	....	....	5,982	packets
Malt Extract (to 13th September, 1967)	....				393	packs
Complan	....	....	....	....	3,245	packs

Sales of National Dried Milk again decreased but were offset by an increase in sales of proprietary milks. Sales of Orange Juice increased by 8.3% whilst sales of Cod Liver Oil and Vitamin A and D tablets fell slightly. Sales of Rose Hip Syrup fell by 12% and the sale of Malt Extract was discontinued and replaced by a new form of vitamin supplement.

Dental Care and Treatment

I am indebted to the Principal School Dental Officer for the following summary of the dental work carried out during the year for the Maternity and Child Welfare Section:—

The arrangements for the dental examination and treatment of expectant mothers and children under school age, for the year under review, have been limited due to staff shortage. For this reason the one session per week previously allocated for this work was discontinued but facilities remained available for examination and treatment during routine working sessions. In some cases there was a reluctance to accept dental treatment but advice was given and in other instances there was a favourable response.

In addition, children of pre-school age were referred for advice and treatment by the Assistant Medical Officers and Health Visitors.

Analysis of Priority Dental Care:—

	Equivalent Sessions	Examined	Needing Treatment	Offered Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	7.6	14	14	14	8	2
Children under five ...		26	24	19	25	18

Forms of Dental Treatment provided:—

	Scalings and Gum Treatm't	Filling	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Crowns or Inlays	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Dentures provided		Radio graphs
							Full Up. or Lr.	Part Up. or Lr.	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	—	17	—	—	10	—	—	—	—
Children under Five	—	49	—	—	34	17	—	—	—

Day Nursery

There was accommodation for 67 children and the nursery was open Monday to Friday from 7-0 a.m. to 7-0 p.m. It is provided primarily for children of mothers who go out to work and also for children whose parents are temporarily unable to care for them. Demand for nursery places remained at a high level and there was a waiting list of children seeking admission.

An Assistant Medical Officer attended the nursery at regular intervals to supervise the health of the children.

Attendances fluctuated considerably and were particularly affected by outbreaks of infectious diseases. In 1967 the average daily attendance was 56 compared with 58 in 1966 and 57 in 1965.

Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948

Child Minders

There were at the end of 1967 four registrations for a total of 24 children.

Regular inspections were carried out by the departmental staff to ensure that the provisions of the Act were complied with.

Playgroups

Two pre-school playgroups for thirty children were registered by the Authority making a total of three registered playgroups for 72 children.

Interest in the establishment of playgroups is increasing. Some notes of guidance regarding standards have been issued from the Health Department and any person seeking to establish a playgroup is offered advice by the Superintendent Health Visitor.

FAMILY PLANNING

The Council makes available accommodation in the Central Clinic, Millgate, and Pemberton Health Centre for the use of the Wigan Family Planning Clinic. Two regular weekly evening sessions are held at the Central Clinic, in addition to a special session on the evening of the first Tuesday in each month. Sessions at Pemberton Health Centre are held weekly on Tuesday afternoons. Attendances continue to rise and reached a total of 6,573 in 1967 compared with 4,546 in 1966. There were 514 new patients during the year.

For lay staff the clinic relies on voluntary workers from the Association. In addition specially trained women doctors and nurses are employed at each session. There is no doubt that the service contributes greatly to the sum of social medicine undertaken by the Authority. The professional and voluntary workers deserve the highest praise for their efforts.

During the year The Family Planning Association workers and various members of the Department were shown two films on oral contraceptives.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY

The staff employed at the end of the year was one non-medical Supervisor, and 12 whole-time municipal midwives.

The number of cases was 461 compared with 471 in 1966, representing 31% of the total Wigan births during the year; the general practitioner was engaged in over 95% of the cases. Irrespective of whether or not the doctor was engaged the midwife made regular ante-natal visits to her patients and 6,238 such visits were made. After delivery the midwife attended the patient for a minimum of ten days and for a longer period if necessary; 11,930 such visits were made.

Early Discharge

The system of 48 hour discharge for selected cases continued during the year with full prior agreement between the hospital, general practitioners and the midwifery service. However, many other mothers were discharged from hospital before the tenth day because of the shortage of Staffed hospital beds. These latter cases increased considerably the work of the service and, being discharged at very short notice, did cause administrative problems. There were 981 early discharges, of which 193 were planned 48-hour discharges. Some mothers were discharged as early as one day after delivery.

Hospital Bookings

Hospital confinement was restricted to certain categories of patients, *i.e.* where there was some obstetrical abnormality, for primiparae who sought admission, for cases where there was some associated medical condition and for those whose home conditions were unsuitable. Visits were made to 227 homes regarding their suitability for the nursing of patients discharged from hospital in 48 hours. These investigations were carried out by the midwives on whose areas the patients resided.

Night Rota System

The night rota system for midwives continued to operate. Three midwives were on duty each night and attended all calls within the Borough. The team of three midwives remained on night duty for a whole week and could then expect no further night calls for three weeks. Calls during the night were made to the Ambulance Station and the Control Assistant contacted the appropriate midwife. The arrangements worked very satisfactorily and enabled midwives to enjoy a more normal home life for three weeks in four.

Ante-Natal Clinics

The ante-natal clinics were attended by midwives on a rota basis, thus providing them with an opportunity to have their clinical findings confirmed and to meet mothers whom they might possibly deliver because of the night rota system. A total of 1,563 blood samples was taken comprising 131 for Wasserman reaction, 225 for the Rhesus factor and 1207 for haemoglobin estimation. Referrals to the Chest Clinic for chest X-ray numbered 146, of whom 132 kept their appointments.

Midwives working in domiciliary practice attended ante-natal clinics run by general practitioners in three group surgeries.

Medical Aid

The rules of the Central Midwives Board require midwives to send for medical aid under conditions and for reasons specified. Medical aid was summoned in 25 cases involving conditions arising during the ante-natal period, in 71 cases for the mother alone, in 27 cases for the child alone, and in 13 cases for both mother and child. The general medical practitioner had been engaged in 114 of these cases.

Analgesia

Each midwife carried an "Entonox" machine or a "Trilene" outfit. Entonox machines have been approved by the Central Midwives Board for use by unsupervised midwives and provide for the administration of a 50/50 mixture of nitrous oxide and oxygen. Cylinders of analgesic gases were supplied through the Ambulance Depot.

Details of analgesics administered by midwives during the year are shown below:

	No. of cases
Trilene only	53
Pethilorfan only	48
Trilene and Pethilorfan	121
Nitrous Oxide and Oxygen only	79
Nitrous Oxide and Oxygen and Pethilorfan	129

Emergency Obstetrical Unit

By arrangement with the Wigan and Leigh Hospital Management Committee a mobile Obstetrical Unit based on Billinge Hospital was available for cases of obstetrical emergency occurring within the Borough. The unit, composed of an obstetrician and an experienced hospital nurse and equipped with equipment for blood transfusion, was transported to the home by the Ambulance Service. Three calls were made upon this service during the year.

Care of Premature Infants

The number of premature infants (*i.e.* weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less at birth) notified during the year was 134; of these 18 were born at home and 116 in hospital.

The early care of premature infants born at home was undertaken by the Supervisor and the midwife engaged for the confinement. On receiving information of the birth the Supervisor took over responsibility for the case and the midwife worked under her direction. Visits were paid daily or more often if necessary, special attention being given to the feeding and handling of the baby. Special equipment in the form of draught-proof cots with bedding and hot water bottles, oxygen resuscitator and baby clothing were provided. Daily record charts were made out for each infant and these were made available to the doctor attending the cases. The intensive visiting was continued during the first month or until such time as the baby had attained normal standards. By these means the mother was given every opportunity of learning how to handle and tend the infant.

The results of this concentrated attention were very good and fully justified the time devoted to them. All premature babies were entered upon the Department's "At Risk" register as a matter of routine.

There is a premature baby unit at Billinge Hospital under the control of the Consultant Paediatrician. Close liaison was maintained with the Department, especially when babies were about to be discharged to home and specialised nursing was continued where necessary.

Retrolental Fibroplasia

No case was reported during 1967.

Neo-Natal Cold Injury

Each midwife was supplied with a thermometer registering to 70°F. to facilitate the diagnosis of this condition.

No case was reported in 1967.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

No case was reported in 1967.

Transport of Midwives

Car allowances were made to midwives who used their own motor cars whilst on approved duties. Ten midwives travelled an aggregate of 21,730 miles in the year.

Midwives without motor transport used the Corporation's bus service or the ambulance service.

Maternity Homes

The Christopher Home, administered by the Wigan and Leigh Hospital Management Committee, is the only Maternity Home within the Borough. Six beds were available for maternity cases and during the year there were 35 Wigan births in the Home.

Training of Midwives

The Authority provides district training for pupil midwives taking Part II of the C.M.B. Course; six students received training during the year.

Maternity Liaison Committee

The Maternity Liaison Committee continued to meet periodically and its proceedings helped to co-ordinate the work of the maternity services.

HEALTH VISITING

Summary of visits during the year 1967:—

No. of primary visits to births	....	....	....	....	....	1,463
„ visits to infants under one year	....	....	....	....	....	5,783
„ „ „ infants over one year and under two years	....	....	....	....	....	3,144
„ „ „ infants over two and under five years....	....	....	....	....	....	6,566
„ „ „ expectant mothers	....	....	....	....	....	179
„ „ „ cases of infectious disease	....	....	....	....	....	51
„ „ „ re deaths under one year	....	....	....	....	....	13
„ „ „ stillbirths	....	....	....	....	....	33
„ „ „ to aged persons	....	....	....	....	....	1,345
„ „ „ mentally disordered persons	....	....	....	....	....	81
„ „ „ tuberculosis households	....	....	....	....	....	35

The establishment of Health Visitors was eleven but only seven full-time, one part-time and one clinic assistant were in post on the 31st December, 1967. The Authority operated a generous scheme whereby nurses were sponsored for training as health visitors and two students were undergoing training at the end of the year. Another two students successfully completed the course organised by Liverpool Corporation Health Department.

Collaboration with General Practitioners

The scheme introduced in 1962 whereby health visitors collaborate with general practitioners by working with them in their areas continued. One health visitor attended morning surgery with a group practice and another attended for half a day each week. Three health visitors received telephone communications. Liaison visits were made to cases selected by the doctors. This collaboration is proving an extremely valuable link between the general practitioner and the Department.

“At Risk” Register

In order to use the depleted staff to the best advantage an “At Risk” register is maintained and selective visiting is undertaken. The register contains details of infants who are known to have handicapping conditions and those known to be specially “at risk” by reason of unfavourable family history, adverse environment before, during or after birth, or who show suspicious symptoms in the first months or years of life. The health visitor concentrates more on these children than on the normal child whose background does not appear to be unfavourable. At the end of the year the register contained the names of 229 children.

Phenylketonuria

Routine screening for phenylketonuria was carried out by health visitors in child welfare clinics and in the home. Children born in the Borough were given a simple test to detect phenylketonuria which is known to be one of the causes of brain damage. During the year 1,757 children were tested compared with 1,438 the previous year.

Ascertainment of Deafness in Pre-School Children

The screening of vulnerable children for deafness was carried out by specially-trained health visitors and children failing to pass the screening tests were referred to the Medical Officers who have a special experience in the field of audiometry.

Field Work Instruction

Two health visitors provided practical instruction for two student health visitors sponsored by Wigan Corporation and for one sponsored by another authority.

The two field work instructors attended meetings with the tutors of established courses to ensure that appropriate practical work was being associated with theoretical instruction.

Mothercraft

The importance of mothercraft is now being increasingly recognised and its teaching is one of the duties of the health visitor. During the year, besides the talks at clinics and in the homes, courses of lectures were given in six schools. Observation visits were made to clinics and the day nursery. Of 160 pupils who entered for the examination in "Child Care" for schools, arranged by the National Association for Maternal and Child Welfare, 157 were successful.

Nurse Training

Public Health lectures, practical demonstrations and observation visits were provided for student nurses undergoing training at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.

Consultant Clinic

One health visitor attended weekly at the Paediatric and Diabetic Clinics at Wigan Infirmary and brought to the notice of the Consultant the social background and environment of the children from the Borough who were attending. She arranged to visit the home when necessary and was available to advise parents as to the best way of carrying out the treatment indicated by the Paediatrician.

Courses

The Superintendent Health Visitor attended a two day course on the "Use and Abuse of Drugs" organised by the Royal College of Nursing and a health visitor attended Part I of the Group Advisers Course in Liverpool.

Transport Arrangements

Five health visitors used their own cars on official duties for which they received causal user car allowances. The other staff were supplied with tokens for use on Wigan Corporation buses.

Specialised Work

Health Visitors were in attendance at toddler and cytology clinics, ante-natal and mothercraft classes, screening for deafness in children and paediatric and diabetic clinics at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary.

General

The work of these all-purpose social visitors is not restricted to children. It continues to widen in scope and will inevitably grow with the increase in the aged population. Staff shortages dictated that routine visits to old people should continue to be restricted although a full time clinic assistant who is a fully trained nurse, was appointed and specialised in this type of visiting.

THE CHILDREN ACT, 1948

A close liaison exists between the Health Department and the staff of the Children's Department. Assistant Medical Officers of Health are available for consultation and medical examination of all children in the care of the Authority.

CHILDREN NEGLECTED OR ILL-TREATED IN THEIR OWN HOMES

PREVENTION OF BREAK-UP OF FAMILIES

Co-ordinating Officer

Following a joint circular issued in 1950 by the Home Office, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education, regarding Children Neglected or Ill-treated in their Own Homes, the Medical Officer of Health was designated as co-ordinating officer to secure full co-operation among all the local services, statutory and voluntary in the Borough.

Co-ordinating Committees

It is the duty of the co-ordinating officer to convene meetings of representatives of the various interested bodies to consider significant cases of child neglect and all cases of ill-treatment of children. This Co-ordinating Committee has continued to meet at regular intervals.

The Council also appointed the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Children's, Education, Estates and Health Committees to determine questions of a special nature on the subject of the circular at elected representative level.

On 1st October, 1963, Section 1 of the Children and Young Persons Act, which extends the power and duties of Local Authorities to promote the welfare of children, was brought into operation. This section is not intended to upset the arrangements already in existence for the performance and co-ordination of preventive work. It does, however, provide statutory authority to perform welfare work and meet any consequent expenditure relating to families where children are likely to need care.

These new powers are of great assistance to the Co-ordinating Committee, particularly in their preventive case work.

The Committee has representatives of the Health, Education, Children's and Housing Departments of the Local Authority, the Department of Employment and Productivity, Ministry of Social Security, Probation Service, N.S.P.C.C., the Wigan and District Moral Welfare Association and the W.R.V.S. It meets at bi-monthly intervals to co-ordinate policy and to minimise multiple visiting by social workers which can prove confusing to the family concerned. Liaison is maintained amongst the Committee members to effect continued help to the families between meetings. A number of voluntary agencies who are not represented at the meetings give timely help in the provision of goods, services and monetary grants and this assistance is greatly appreciated.

No. of cases under review, 1st January, 1967	....	....	18
No. of new cases during the year	....	....	7
No. ceased to be considered	....	....	9
No. of cases under review 31st December, 1967	....	....	16

FAMILY SERVICE PROJECT

Case Load

Families under supervision at 1st January	....	....	....	....	18
Families under supervision at 31st December	....	....	....	....	19

Orlit Houses

Renovated	....	....	....	....	....	34
Unoccupied — Work in progress	....	....	....	....	....	14
Unoccupied — Work not in hand	....	....	....	....	....	2
Occupied until required for renovation	....	....	....	....	....	46
						—
Total Number of Houses	....	....	....	....	....	96
						—

A steady all round improvement has been effected in this area. Families have responded in a variety of ways to their new homes, and a few have achieved a much higher standard of home comfort and cleanliness. Family Case Work has helped to diminish stresses, encourage improved social attitudes and support deficiencies caused by inadequacy and subnormality.

In this facet of the work an accepting attitude, largely free from judgement and condemnation has established many good sharing relationships between the Family Case Worker, families and individuals. Many long standing problems have been revealed by this method, and while absolute solutions are rare people are living closer to normality as they cope a little better with such problems.

The area as a whole is much quieter but police visits and weekend quarrels are still too frequent.

The renovated houses are treated with much greater respect. Window breaking, a chronic problem in the old houses has greatly diminished. Meter robberies are as yet unknown. There are still a few in the old houses.

A teenage gang (not all from the Orlit houses) still indulge in anti-social activities from time to time, mainly against certain families who they regard as “good fun”, but their activities are only about half what they were last year.

The main difficulty is the high cost of central heating to families on Social Security Benefits, and to large families where the breadwinner is on a low wage.

Other Areas

It has been possible to help several families with acute social problems. The practical outcome has been in reconciliation, extinction of debt, improved care of children and home, and men returning to work. Here again the emphasis is on improvement rather than cure.

The work generally has necessitated a large amount of material help especially with furniture and clothing.

This help given at the right time, and used to rekindle interest in the home, or provide the initial comfort in a dreary situation, can provide an impetus in a static and apathetic family situation. This is invaluable when a family has really touched “rock bottom.”

HOME NURSING

Administrative Arrangements

The service functions on a non-resident basis.

The District Nursing Service office at the Nurses Home, 9 New Market Street, is staffed on weekdays from 8-30 a.m. to 7-30 p.m. and messages are accepted between these hours. At all other times requests for a District Nurse are left at the Ambulance Station which is operational 24 hours a day. The District Nurses working in the Marsh Green, Worsley Mesnes and Sherwood Drive areas used the new clinics as their bases and these facilities were also used by relief nurses on a number of occasions. Certain patients were encouraged to attend for treatment at the clinics, and 40 patients made 436 attendances during the year, thus saving valuable professional time. Each night a duty nurse remained at the Nurses Home until 7-30 p.m.; before going off duty she telephoned the ambulance station, to ascertain whether any emergency calls had been received and then she visited a limited number of patients. Full co-operation from general medical practitioners and hospitals ensured that the arrangements worked satisfactorily.

Nurses continued to visit patients as in previous years and when necessary two or even three visits daily were made. The total number of visits during the year was 60,613 which represents an increase of 12% over the previous year. This situation has arisen as a result of an increase in the number of patients discharged early from hospital and of those requiring post operative midwifery nursing.

Injections

The number of injections given exceeded that of the previous year by 1,908. There was a significant decrease in injections to cardiac patients but injections to diabetic and asthmatic patients increased as did injections to patients suffering from anaemia, neuritis and rheumatism. A 48% increase in other injections resulted from the introduction of new drugs for use in cases of hypertension, threatened abortion and cancer. The number of cancer cases increased and a greater proportion were referred by the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary. The seriousness of the problem is indicated by the fact that 62 of the 135 cancer cases treated were aged under 65 years. A new method of vaccinal preparation was introduced in the form of aerosol "disprays" and this proved most successful.

Incontinence Pads (see also page 58)

Improved quality incontinence pads were provided for selected patients and were of great benefit to the patients and nurses; incontinence pads were provided to other patients by the Department at a special rate.

Disposable Equipment

For a number of years disposable syringes have been used by District Nurses. Disposable gloves were used by the nurses when giving penicillin and streptomycin injections and other disposable equipment included pre-sterilised dressings, enemas and masks.

Transport

Four Corporation owned vehicles were used by District Nurses who covered a total of 25,282 miles. The Superintendent received an allowance for the use of her car to visit nurses and patients, six District Nurses received essential car user allowances and two an allowance for the use of their auto-cycles. The nurses covered 21,533 miles in their own vehicles on official journeys.

Marie Curie Memorial Foundation

Since February, 1965 the Authority has been responsible for the administration of the Marie Curie "Area Welfare Grant Scheme" and the "Day and Night Nursing Service" in the Borough. These services are financed by the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation and are for the benefit of patients suffering from cancer. The Superintendent of the District Nursing Service supervises the detailed arrangements for providing help to patients. No difficulties were experienced and the services resulted in considerable relief being given to both patients and relatives. A total of 55 cases was helped in 1967 and a number of donations were received on behalf of the Foundation from relatives who wished to express their appreciation for the assistance given to patients.

Staff

At the end of the year the Superintendent and eleven whole time nurses (one of them a male nurse and three State Enrolled Nurses) were employed; there were three vacancies on the establishment. The State Enrolled Nurses worked under the supervision of experienced State Registered Nurses with District Training and they are able to undertake many time consuming visits.

Training

A State Registered Nurse started her district training in September for the certificates issued by the Ministry of Health and the Queens Institute of District Nursing, a State Enrolled Nurse was successful in the Assessment Examination in June and four nurses attended a study day in Preston. A visit of observation was made to the District Nursing Service by 27 Nursing Students from the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary.

The following is a record of work done during 1967:—

No. of cases on the books 1st January, 1967....	495
No. of new cases during 1967	1,317
No. of visits paid by the nurses	60,613

No. of cases ceased to be visited:—

Now convalescent	707
Removed to hospital	307
Deaths	192
Other reasons	76
—	1,282

No. of cases remaing on the books on 31st December, 1967 530

A classification of cases attended during 1967 will be found on pages 43—46.

Classification of Cases

Table 1—All Ages

Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Tuberculosis, other forms	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Malignant Neoplasms	....	....	....	....	....	....	135
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	....	....	....	....	....	....	30
Diabetes mellitus	....	....	....	....	....	....	23
General and Nervous Debility	....	....	....	....	....	....	37
Multiple sclerosis	....	....	....	....	....	....	18
Vascular lesions affecting central nervous system					....	....	191
Cataract	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Acute otitis media	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease	....	....	....	....	....	....	108
Other diseases of circulatory system	....	....	....	....	....	....	477
Tonsillitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	....	17
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	93
Asthma	....	....	....	....	....	....	24
All other respiratory diseases	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Thyroidectomy	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Appendicitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	28
Hernia of Abdominal Cavity	....	....	....	....	....	....	11
Laparotomy	....	....	....	....	....	....	16
Gastrectomy	....	....	....	....	....	....	5
Cholecystectomy	....	....	....	....	....	....	29
Disease of gall bladder and biliary ducts	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Other diseases of digestive system	....	....	....	....	....	....	12
Diseases of genital organs	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Diseases of urinary system	....	....	....	....	....	....	7
Prostatectomy	....	....	....	....	....	....	17
Urethralotomy	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Nephrectomy	....	....	....	....	....	....	3

Table II—Aged 65 Years or Over

				1966			1967		
				Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	....	....	....	—	—	—	—	1	1
Tuberculosis, other forms	....	....	....	—	4	4	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasms	....	....	....	28	35	63	34	39	73
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	....	....	....	—	2	2	3	6	9
Diabetes Mellitus	....	....	....	1	17	18	1	15	16
Vascular lesions affecting central nervous system	....	....	....	35	58	93	38	62	100
Arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease	....	....	....	33	48	81	42	54	96
Other diseases of circulatory system	....	....	....	48	175	223	47	196	243
Diseases of Digestive system	....	....	....	—	2	2	1	8	9
Diseases of Urinary system	....	....	....	4	2	6	—	—	—
Pneumonia	....	....	....	6	12	18	3	7	10
Bronchitis	....	....	....	33	29	62	9	8	17
Other diseases of respiratory system	....	....	....	5	3	8	1	—	1
Asthma	....	....	....	—	—	—	2	2	4
Rheumatism	....	....	....	1	3	4	—	1	1
Arthritis	....	....	....	1	20	21	4	28	32
Varicose ulcers	....	....	....	3	20	23	2	22	24
General rashes on body	....	....	....	2	—	2	—	1	1
Cellulitis	....	....	....	2	2	4	—	—	—
Abscesses, Boils, Carbuncles	....	....	....	1	3	4	2	2	4
Bedsores, Shingles, Septic Areas	....	....	....	11	29	40	7	32	39
Senility, General and Nervous Debility, Neurasthenia	....	....	....	33	65	98	40	87	127
Injuries due to falls	....	....	....	1	8	9	1	4	5
Fractures	....	....	....	2	12	14	1	11	12
Burns	....	....	....	1	2	3	1	1	2
Scalds	....	....	....	1	3	4	2	—	2
Supra-pubic drainage	....	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prostatectomy	....	....	....	7	—	7	7	—	7
Gastrectomy	....	....	....	1	—	1	—	1	1
Hysterectomy	....	....	....	—	—	—	—	2	2
Cholecystectomy	....	....	....	—	3	3	6	7	13
Procedentia and Diseases of the uterus	....	....	....	—	39	39	—	39	39
Preparation for X-ray	....	....	....	3	1	4	—	6	6
Constipation	....	....	....	11	26	37	13	25	38
Cataract	....	....	....	—	2	2	—	2	2
Herniotomy	....	....	....	4	1	5	2	1	3
Laparotomy	....	....	....	2	2	4	5	3	8
Amputation	....	....	....	1	3	4	1	1	1
Multiple Sclerosis	....	....	....	—	—	—	1	2	3
Shingles	....	....	....	—	—	—	4	6	10
Osteotomy — Arthrodesis	....	....	....	—	—	—	—	4	4

Table III (a)—Children Under 5 years

Diabetes	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Abscesses	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Anaemia	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Appendicitis — Ileostomy	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Bronchitis and Asthma	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Burns	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Circumcision	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Constipation and Colic	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Otitis Media	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Spina Bifida	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Thrush ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Tonsillitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Others	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1

Table III (b)—Schoolchildren

Asthma	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Abscesses	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Anaemia	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Appendicitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Burns ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Constipation	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Diabetes	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Otitis Media	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Tonsillitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Septic knee, hands, scalp	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Others — Impetigo, Muscular Dystrophy ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1

Table IV—Injection Therapy

Asthma	Adrenalin, Silbephyeline Acthar, Depomedrone	856
Anaemia	Anahaemin, Imferon, Examin, Hepastab, } Riboflavin, Campolon, Forte, Cytamin, } Neo-hepatex, Actha, Miocrysin }	14,626
Neuritis	} Penicillin	1,481
Rheumatism		
Bronchitis, Chest Infection	} Insulin	6,158
Pneumonia, Catarrh		
Diabetes	Mersalyl, Mercardon, thiomerein	2,388
Cardiac	Streptomycin and Dimycin	346
Tuberculosis	} Morphia, Pethidine, Largactol, Omnipon. Scopolamine, Novocaine and other sedatives	1,407
Narcotics and Sedatives		
Vaccines	.... ....	10
Anti-Tetanus Serum	.... ....	3
Others—Vasolustine, Primolutdepo, Deca Durabolin, Ergotamine	.... ....	2,141
Pituitrin	.... ....
Nervous Debility	} Parentrovite and Benerva ....		755
General Debility		
		<hr/> 30,171

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Wherever practicable the Schedule set out below is now followed in the Department for the protection of children against infectious diseases.

Age	Visit	Vaccine	Injec- tion	Oral	Interval
1-6 months	1	Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus Poliomyelitis	1	1	4-6 weeks
	2	Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus Poliomyelitis	2	2	4-6 weeks
	3	Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus Poliomyelitis	3	3	
7-8 months		Smallpox			
18-21 months		Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus booster	4		
4½ years		Diphtheria, tetanus booster Poliomyelitis booster	5	4	
8-12 years		Diphtheria, tetanus booster	6		
Over 12 years		B.C.G.			

Smallpox Vaccination

The table below gives details of vaccinations of children carried out during 1967. There were 438 primary vaccinations of children under two years of age, a reduction of 21 compared with last year which reflects no great credit on Wigan parents. The dangers of smallpox cannot be over emphasised. The speed of modern travel coupled with the arrival of large numbers of immigrants and other travellers who have passed through areas where smallpox is endemic increases the need for protection by vaccination. The help of general practitioners was sought in an endeavour to improve the position and smallpox vaccination was offered at every infant welfare clinic session in the Borough where members of the medical and nursing staff took every opportunity to encourage parents to have their children protected.

			Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 yrs. inclusive	5-15 yrs. inclusive	TOTAL
Primary	....	....	335	103	54	15	507
Re-vaccination	....	....	—	1	5	13	19
TOTALS	....	....	335	104	59	28	526

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

There is still a high percentage of protected persons in the Borough as a result of the remarkable acceptance of oral poliomyelitis vaccination in 1962.

			M. & C.W. and Special Clinics	School and School Clinic	Private Doctors	Total
POLIOMYELITIS — ORAL VACCINE	...	...		
Children under 16 years of age:						
Completed Primary Courses	...	...	1025	531	59	1625
Reinforcing doses	...	...	58	723	12	793
Persons aged 16 years and over:						
Completed Primary Courses	...	...	81	2	—	83
Reinforcing doses	...	...	—	—	—	—

B.C.G. Vaccination

Although B.C.G. vaccination is offered generally to the 13 year age group the Ministry of Health allows whole classes to be dealt with. This greatly facilitates the administrative work but as a result a small percentage of the children were aged 12 or 14 years. This year's acceptance rate of 79% was lower than that for the previous year.

Routine protection of 13-year old school children:—

No. in 13 year age group	....	....	....	....	....	1,117
No. for whom consent was obtained	....	....	....	....	....	879
Percentage of acceptances	....	....	....	....	....	79%
No. of Mantoux-Negative	....	....	....	....	....	831
No. of Mantoux-Positive	....	....	....	....	....	48
Percentage Positive	....	....	....	....	....	5.8%
No. Vaccinated	....	....	....	....	....	831
No. who had Chest X-ray	....	....	....	....	....	47
No. where X-ray showed active tuberculosis	....	....	....	....	....	—
No. where X-ray showed lung abnormality requiring further observation	....	....	....	....	....	2

The figure for the positive Mantoux tests gives an indication of the extent to which children are being brought into contact with the tuberculosis bacillus. Our percentage, 5.8 compares favourably with that in other urban industrial areas.

The Chest Physician has supplied the following information regarding B.C.G. vaccination of Tuberculosis Contacts during 1967:—

Children under 15 years of age:—

No. of Contacts	Positive	Negative	B.C.G.
skin patch tested			Vaccinated
106	14	92	107

There were no cases of negative skin reaction among the 104 children patch tested after B.C.G.

The figures do not include work carried out amongst hospital staff.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus Immunisation

The Health Visitor with her personal approach is the spearhead of the drive for a high level of primary protection against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus, while the school nurse is in a unique position to coax the reluctant parents of the primary school child to agree to the child receiving a booster dose of prophylactic.

Details of inoculation carried out during 1967 are given below.

					M. & C.W. and Special Clinics	School and School Clinic	Private Doctors	Total
DIPHTHERIA								
Completed Primary Courses	...	...	...	...	950	264	137	1351
Re-inoculations	...	...	...	...	564	1655	18	2237
WHOOPING COUGH								
Completed Primary Courses	...	...	...	...	924	—	137	1061
Re-inoculations	...	...	...	...	531	—	17	548
TETANUS								
Completed Primary Courses	...	...	...	...	950	264	137	1351
Re-inoculations	...	...	...	...	564	779	18	1361

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The service operates from the Ambulance Station, Pottery Road and is constantly on call. Radio telephone equipment is used at the central control and ten ambulance vehicles are fitted with mobile transmitter receivers.

There was a further increase in the number of patients carried from 56,316 in 1966 to 57,519 in 1967 and a decrease in vehicle mileage from 150,238 to 148,390. The table below indicates the trends in the service since the termination of the agency agreement by the Lancashire County Council. An increase of 72.1% in patients carried has been contained with a corresponding mileage increase of only 23.4%. There was an increase in the number of patients carried to the Psychiatric Day Care Unit at Billinge Hospital and the development of Wroughton Hospital as a major orthopaedic centre has resulted in considerably increased demands on the service. These figures are encouraging in that they indicate a more economic use of vehicles and the better co-ordination of work.

Year	Total patients carried	Total mileage	Average No. of patients carried per mile	Average mileage per patient
1956	33,420	120,283	0.27	3.6
1957	35,622	119,972	0.28	3.4
1958	37,246	114,725	0.33	3.0
1959	40,058	115,346	0.35	2.9
1960	44,181	127,081	0.35	2.8
1961	49,354	130,182	0.38	2.6
1962	51,446	128,351	0.40	2.5
1963	55,415	135,443	0.41	2.4
1964	55,558	140,047	0.39	2.5
1965	55,791	142,635	0.39	2.6
1966	56,316	150,238	0.38	2.7
1967	57,519	148,390	0.38	2.6

Personnel

The establishment of the service at the 31st December, 1967 was as follows:—

- 1 Superintendent.
- 4 Control Assistants.
- 1 Clerk/Day Control Assistant.
- 1 Leading Driver.
- 28 Driver/Attendants.
- 1 Handyman.

Civil Defence

The recruitment of volunteers to man the new Ambulance Reserve, to replace the Ambulance Section of the Civil Defence Unit, was commenced and was proving successful at the end of the year, (it has since been decided at central government level to disband the Civil Defence Organisation and so the scheme has been abandoned).

Maintenance of Vehicles

All maintenance and repairs necessary to keep the fleet fully serviceable were carried out satisfactorily.

AGE OF VEHICLES IN YEARS (as at 31st December, 1967.)

Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-6 years	6-7 years	7-8 years	8-9 years	9-10 years	10 years and over
2	2	1	2	1	1	1	—	1	—	—

TOTAL MILEAGE RUN BY EACH VEHICLE

Vehicle No.	Registered No.	Year of Purchase	Make	Type	Mileage		Total
					1966	1967	
6	BJP 947	1955	Bedford	Ambulance	6634	550	143495 sold
5	DEK 828	1957	Bedford	Ambulance	12567	6470	126690 sold
4	EJP 800	1959	Bedford	Ambulance	16111	13681	120107
9	HEK 999	1961	Bedford	Sitting Case	13131	14851	89528
7	HJP 804	1962	Bedford	Ambulance	11236	12330	62330
8	JJP 711	1963	Bedford	Ambulance	15968	16574	78641
10	KJP 984	1964	Bedford	Dual Pur.	18344	16768	66913
2	KJP 966	1964	Bedford	Ambulance	16297	14952	55601
1	AJP 298C	1965	Bedford	Dual Pur.	13099	12286	37207
3	CEK 650D	1966	Bedford	Ambulance	6122	14042	20164
Car	CJP 49D	1966	Morris 1800	Car	9408	16698	26106
6	DJP 206E	1967	Bedford	Ambulance	—	9214	9214
5	EJP 105F	1967	Bedford	Dual Pur.	—	437	437

Petrol and Oil Consumption

Vehicle	Make	Reg. No.	Mileage	CONSUMPTION		AVERAGE	
				Petrol Galls.	Oil Pints	M.P.G.	M.P.P.
1	Bedford	AJP 298C	12286	1158.2	24	10.6	512.0
2	Bedford	KJP 966	14852	1368.0	38	10.8	391.0
3	Bedford	CEK 650D	13933	1229.0	40	11.3	348.3
4	Bedford	EJP 800	13681	1167.5	68	12.0	201.1
5	Bedford	DEK 828	6470	605.0	25	10.7	258.0
5	Bedford	EJP 105F	437	23.5	1	20.0	—
6	Bedford	BJP 947	550	72.4	3	7.6	183.3
6	Bedford	DJP 206E	9214	807.3	31	11.4	297.2
7	Bedford	HJP 804	12330	1285.0	54	10.0	240.0
8	Bedford	JJP 711	16274	1291.0	51	12.6	319.1
9	Bedford	HEK 999	14751	1470.7	35	10.0	121.5
Car	Morris	CJP 49D	16698	758.7	30	22.0	566.6
10	Bedford	KJP 984	16768	848.4	39	20.0	429.9
		TOTALS :	148390	12084.7	439	12.3	338.0

Summary of Work Undertaken During the Year 1967

CLASSIFICATION	MILES	PATIENTS
SECTION 27 PATIENTS:		
Street Accidents (including all road users)	1,111	306
Other Street Accidents	448	114
Work Accidents	308	77
Home Accidents	1,277	265
Recreation Accidents	718	161
Unclassified Injuries	675	169
Street Illnesses	599	151
Home Illnesses	800	168
Works Illnesses	310	79
Other Illnesses	157	38
Maternity	6,425	626
Mental Patients	2,753	273
Infectious	127	19
Deceased	337	60
Admissions, Discharges, Transfers and Clinic Cases ...	89,449	23,732
Service and Fruitless	1,700	—
Psychiatric Unit, Billinge	13,084	8,087
SECTION 27 PATIENTS—RECOVERABLE:		
Lancashire County Council	—	—
Other Authorities	1,634	142
National Coal Board	—	—
Fruitless Journey (chargeable)	27	—
OTHER RE-CHARGEABLE WORK:		
Welfare Services	2,551	1,541
Mentally Sub-normal Children	12,281	12,175
„ „ „ Adults	5,783	5,852
Midwives	542	—
Mental Health: Welfare Officer Transport	259	—
Day Care Unit	5,035	3,484
TOTALS	148,390	57,519

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

Health Education

With the absence of local radio and television stations the local Press is a vital medium for promoting a knowledge of good health. During the year both local papers have assisted the Department with campaigns on Alcoholism, Smoking and Mental Health. An interview with a participant in "The Adventures in Relationships" lectures provided the basis of an article. Local journalists have also written on topics quite spontaneously, and there are a number of regular health features by Doctors. "Baby News," a periodic sponsored magazine launched in 1967, has been circulated to mothers of young children free of charge.

Periodic meetings between members of the staff and the Health Education Officer were arranged to discuss topics and methods of health education and to test new films. The Health Education Officer also showed films at the Health Visitors' School Mothercraft Classes and at the Class for Expectant Mothers and arranged for the provision of information and displays on cancer at the Cervical Cytology Clinics and elsewhere. Other displays included Home Safety, Hypothermia, and Noise Prevention.

As a sober start to the New Year Alcohol Education was attempted. An information sheet was prepared on the recognition and causes of alcoholism and treatment of the alcoholic in the home. This was published as a full page feature by the Evening Post and Chronicle. A further full page article followed giving interviews with alcoholics. Letters and notes were sent to the major employers in the area on the subject and a survey of their reactions elicited a favourable response. Clergy and Head Teachers were also briefed and three film shows and talks were arranged in schools, including a presentation to 300 grammar school boys.

With the assistance of Mr. Peter Read, M.A., of the British Temperance Society and Mr. Brian Lemin of Bolton, one of the few Male Health Visitors, a Five Day Anti-Smoking Clinic for Adults was held in March at the Grammar School. Despite extensive publicity the meetings only attracted 37 people half of whom came from the townships surrounding Wigan. Press coverage brought the issues involved in smoking to the attention of a wider public. It is acknowledged that smoking is a difficult habit to break and it would appear that any serious reduction will be achieved mainly by encouraging young people not to start smoking.

The acquisition of a daylight screen enabled a short film on dental hygiene, "Johnny and the D.K. Robot," to be shown in all infant and junior schools, supported by a brief talk and demonstration. Many teachers had dealt with dental hygiene during the year, which is encouraging as too few parents take an interest in their children's teeth.

An attractive Mental Health Exhibition was produced for Mental Health Week on the theme of public attitudes to mental illness. This was circulated to the various clinics and Hope School Junior Training Centre and Fabrex Adult Training Centre were open to the public. The film "Testing the Very Young" was shown to mental health, nursing and medical staff earlier in the year.

During Civic Week the Ambulance Station, The Training Centres, Welfare Homes and the Pemberton Health Centre were open at various times. Evening tours were arranged on two occasions, each to a Welfare Home and the Pemberton Health Centre. Demonstrations of resuscitation at the Ambulance Station proved very popular with school children. Special displays were arranged at the Pemberton Clinic for Civic Week to publicise Improvement Grants and Food Hygiene. Display cards, showing the services provided by the various types of staff, were exhibited throughout the building. At Marsh Green Health Centre the subject of the special display was "Safe Beach and Countryside" and cards also showed the work of the staff. Four films "The Invaders," (food hygiene) "Town Nurse, Country Nurse," "Clean Air" and "Hooked" were shown during Civic Week. The last was shown to the Bolton Health Committee on their visit to Pemberton Health Centre in September.

The difficult problem of information on drugs was dealt with in a quiet manner by the Department. The local Press portrayed the drugs menace in laymans language on their own initiative, but the most difficult aspect of any information programme is the recognition of the drug taker. The Deputy Chief Constable and the detectives were invited to hear a recording on the subject, which had been obtained by the Department. It was felt that there were no hard drugs in circulation in Wigan and the Police were confident that their circulation could be prevented. A compact booklet, which put drugs in perspective was distributed to head teachers and other interested people, films on the subject were offered to schools and three showings were arranged. Wigan Grammar School was loaned a tape recording from the Royal College of General Practitioners and one talk was to a class of Secondary Modern School girls.

There is a similarity between the problems associated with the recognition of mental illness, alcoholism and venereal disease. In every case it must be recognised that these afflictions can strike at any type of home; for the latter two the best preventive measure is abstinence. Boredom among young people and the indifference of the parents may cause a lot of social tragedy, and to help parents of teenagers two series of five lectures were organised entitled "Adventures in Relationships" and "Education for Family Life." Several speakers participated and the first series was held at the All Saints School Hall. A revised series was then held at Pemberton Secondary Boys School with a change of speakers and more films, but the attendance of parents was low and further experiments with this type of activity will take place in 1968. A film on the subject of venereal disease was shown at one girls' school and questions were answered by Dr. Aileen Howarth.

Some experimental public lectures on Health were offered by the Wigan and District Mining and Technical College and the Department gave advice on films and visual aids. The Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Public Health Inspector again took part in the Food Hygiene Course at the College. Two general talks, one to a men's society, and another to a parent's group were given during the year by the Health Education Officer.

Cervical Cytology

Regular Cytology Clinics were held on Thursday lunchtimes and Friday evenings at the Pemberton Health Centre, Sherwood Drive and 908 examinations were made. The Manchester Committee on Cancer provided literature for distribution to those attending the examination and all members of the nursing staff were shown the film "Stage Nought," and filmstrips on the subject. For the first time Cervical Smears were taken from older patients at the Family Planning Associations Clinics, a total of 233 during the year. 51 smears were taken from 36 women at Post Natal Clinics, of these, 2 women were referred for biopsy.

Convalescence

During the year 1967 no arrangements were made for short-term care under section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Venereal Disease

The treatment of Venereal Diseases is the responsibility of the Hospital service, and in Wigan the Clinic is under the direction of Dr. Philip S. Silver, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

The number of new patients in Wigan was 63, an increase of 11 compared with the previous year. Attendances at the Wigan Clinic fell from 952 (646 male, 306 female) in 1966 to 890 (659 male, 231 female) in 1967.

NO. OF WIGAN CASES DEALT WITH FOR THE FIRST TIME AT THE V.D. TREATMENT CENTRES

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Syphilis	7	3	5	3	10	2	2	1	3	5*
Gonorrhoea	14	8	12	21	17	15	8	14	9	10
Other										
Conditions	43	32	54	49	59	56	44	48	40	48
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	64	43	71	73	86	73	54	63	52	63
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

*There was one male Primary Syphilis from Wigan.

The Health Committee have continued their arrangements whereby the V.D. Orderly of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary undertakes the duties of Almoner.

Efforts are made to persuade persons who are a source of infection to attend for treatment at the Centre. Contact is made with patients who fail to attend for treatment with a view to stressing the importance of continued attendance at the Clinic. The work done by the Almoner has been found to produce satisfactory results.

The following is an extract from the Almoner's report for the year 1967:—

“As a result of information obtained from the patients, the following contacts have been persuaded to attend:—

								Males	Females
Syphilis	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Gonorrhoea	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	4
Non-Venereal	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	4	4

Of the contacts three of the males were contacts of Latent or Congenital Syphilis and one of a non-venereal patient. Of the eight females six were contacts of gonorrhoea, one of Latent Syphilis and one of a non-venereal case.

The following action was taken in an attempt to persuade patients to keep up their attendances for treatment and blood tests, etc:—

28 letters went to patients failing to attend.

20 reported for treatment.

There was no need for any Personal visits this year because of a decrease in a number of Syphilis patients who require long term treatment. There was only one child of a Wigan woman who attended for treatment of Syphilis. This child was examined, blood tested and diagnosed as free from venereal disease. 13 unmarried expectant mothers attended for blood test and examination. Some needed a little treatment. One was diagnosed Congenital Syphilis and underwent treatment.

Tuberculosis

Statistical information regarding the prevalence of and mortality from tuberculosis will be found in that section of the Report dealing with infectious diseases.

The Tuberculosis Visitor is a full-time member of the Local Authority Health Visiting Staff, her work being divided between attendance with the Chest Physician at the Dispensary and visiting patients in their homes.

During the year, 2,207 home visits were paid by the tuberculosis health visitor.

The number of new contacts examined during the past three years was as follows:—

1965			1966			1967		
Adults	Children	Total	Adults	Children	Total	Adults	Children	Total
131	180	311	102	131	233	56	124	180

Contacts of positive cases under supervision, 31st December, 1967 165

Contacts under supervision after B.C.G. vaccination 483

The average number of contacts per case of pulmonary T.B. is as follows:—

		1965	1966	1967
Tuberculosis Notification:	Pulmonary	21	22	15
	Other forms	2	5	2
No. of contacts per case (pulmonary only)		14.8	10.6	12

The responsibility of the Council for providing care and after-care services at present is being discharged through a voluntary Care Committee. The aims of this Committee may be stated as follows:—

1. To provide extra nourishments, nursing utensils, wheelchairs, etc.
2. To help in providing extra clothing needed by the patients, especially when they go into sanatorium and on their return home.
3. To visit and give friendly advice.
4. To assist in educating public opinion in matters of health in regard to Tuberculosis.
5. To give assistance in providing tools in cases where tuberculous persons entering into employment are not so assisted by the Ministry of Labour.

The Chest Physician acts as Honorary Medical Officer to this Committee.

Rehabilitation

Very few known sputum positive cases are actually employed in permanent positions, and constant supervision by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor ensures that these few do not become a danger to other susceptible groups.

Persons who are fit for light work are referred to the Disablement Re-settlement Officer with suitable recommendations.

Other Illnesses

Close liaison between the health visitor and the social welfare officers engaged on work amongst the physically handicapped under the Council's scheme ensures that advice and help are readily available to those in need once their condition becomes known to the department.

Meals on Wheels Service

A Scheme (within the Council's proposals under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946) for the delivery of a mid-day meal to individuals unable, because of illness or physical disability to provide their own, has been in operation since May, 1951.

The meals are prepared at the Welfare Home, Frog Lane.

The food is served in individual covered containers. The charge per meal is 1s. 5d. but in necessitous cases it is reduced to 1s. 1d.

A total of 21,450 meals, compared with 20,781 in 1966, was provided during the year. Except for public holidays meals are delivered on Mondays to Fridays each week. A maximum of three meals per week is provided in each case and the service is greatly appreciated.

One of the biggest problems of a Meals on Wheels Service is to ensure that meals are served hot and there is no doubt that the introduction of "Hot Lock" containers which are heated by charcoal briquettes has resulted in an improved standard of service.

Members of the W.R.V.S. assist in the delivery of the meals and I am extremely grateful to them for the assistance which they give in helping us to provide this service in the Borough.

Nursing Equipment

Items of nursing equipment were available on loan from the Department at a nominal charge. The service was used extensively and 310 items were loaned during the year. Details are given below:—

Air rings	46	Enuresis alarms	3
Back rests	51	Rubber sheets	48
Bed cradles	5	Tripod crutches	3
Bed pans	74	Urinals	32
Commodes	17	Wheelchairs	21
Crutches	5	Zimmer lifts	3
Beds with lifting poles	2		

In addition draw sheets were supplied to bedfast incontinent patients as the table below indicates:—

No. of cases on 1st January, 1967	5
No. of new cases during the year	14
No. of cases ceased	13
No. of cases on 31st December, 1967	6

Incontinence Pads (see also page 41)

Supplies of pads under Section 28 are available from the Department and can be purchased for patients at a special price. No difficulties have been experienced in the disposal of soiled pads as it has usually been possible to burn them at patient's homes. If this proved impracticable for any reason an alternative method of disposal has been arranged with the help and co-operation of the Director of Cleansing.

Chiropody Service

A full-time chiropodist was employed at the Nurses' Home, 9 New Market Street, Wigan and a second chiropodist was employed on a sessional basis at the Central, Pemberton and Marsh Green Clinics. The service was provided for the elderly, the physically handicapped, and expectant mothers and a limited number of housebound patients were treated in their own homes. A charge of 2s. 6d. per treatment was made for the service but this was waived for persons receiving Ministry of Social Security Supplementary Benefit.

During the year, 764 patients made a total of 4,147 attendances for treatment at the Nurses' Home and Clinics. In addition the chiropodist gave 254 domiciliary treatments.

Fluoridation

Fluoridation of the water supply — already agreed in principle by the Borough Council — waits for its implementation either strong ministerial directive or a better understanding among small neighbouring authorities whose decisions, or lack of them, are holding up this valuable preventive measure.

HOME HELP SERVICE

The increase in the number of persons in receipt of home help recorded in previous years was maintained in 1967; help was supplied to 34 maternity, 2 mentally handicapped, 70 chronic sick and tuberculous (under 65 years of age), 1,025 aged and 72 other cases, making a total of 1,203 cases, by the whole-time equivalent of 59.5 Home Helps.

Many people are under the mistaken impression that the Home Help Service is a domestic service agency that anyone can call upon to assist them in their homes and of 297 applications for help only 248 were found to be eligible, on medical grounds. The Home Help Organiser and Assistants made 2,460 follow-up visits to confirm that cases in receipt of help were still entitled to the service, to see if the patients' circumstances had changed and also to check that the Home Helps were both working their correct hours and carrying out their duties efficiently.

Charges for Service

The standard charge operating at the end of the year was 5/8d. an hour but as in previous years very few were called upon to pay the full cost.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The service was fully staffed during the year but it must be emphasised that full scale community care as envisaged in the 1959 Mental Health Act requires more Mental Health Officers.

The number of referrals for preventive action (*i.e.* care and supervision) almost doubled during the year and it is felt that this is an encouraging development together with the decrease in actual admission to hospital. It is, however, this kind of social work which is often the most time consuming and requires the most skill.

Administration

The establishment provides for one Senior Mental Welfare Officer, three Mental Welfare Officers and a Mental Welfare Assistant.

Five doctors are approved by this Authority under Section 28(2) of the Mental Health Act, 1959 for the purpose of making recommendations in respect of mentally disordered patients. These are the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. R. McLean Bain, Dr. H. Coates, Dr. T. L. O'Donnell and Dr. E. H. Calverley.

The Deputy Medical Officer of Health left on the 31st July, 1967 and the Department was without the services of a Medical Officer with special duties in Mental Health at the end of the year.

Subnormality

At the end of the year 126 patients were under Community Care with regular visits from Mental Welfare Officers dealing with many and varied problems and in many cases offering support to the parents. This is particularly marked in the cases of new referrals of very young children.

A fact worthy of note is that by the end of the year there was no waiting list for subnormals requiring permanent care and temporary care had been provided for all cases where requested.

Seven subnormal patients were discharged from hospital including one Section 60 male subnormal on trial to the hostel. Of the others one has been successfully placed in outside employment, one found residential employment and the others are at home at the request of their families.

The hostel for male subnormals continues to serve a most useful purpose and in addition to the facilities it provides for its regular residents it has enabled the Department to meet certain emergencies and unexpected contingencies.

Brockhall Hospital has been of great help to the Department, liaison with their staff has been closely maintained both for patients requiring admission and for consultative purposes.

Co-operation and help from Dr. R. M. Forrester has also been of great use to the Mental Welfare Officers especially in early notification of the pre-school child with problems connected with this aspect of subnormality.

Mental Illness

Mental Welfare Officers maintain a twenty-four hour on call for all emergencies. Mental Welfare Officers accompany patients to all clinics where necessary for consultation, and after-care of all patients discharged from hospital provides a major part of the Mental Welfare Officers work.

Intensive visiting takes place of selective cases with a high relapse rate. The close co-operation with Dr. Coates and Dr. Lowe and the Staff at Billinge Hospital has continued and regular discussion of patients problems takes place. In many cases joint action by both hospital and local authority is of great help in dealing with difficult problems. Mental Welfare Officers keep in close touch with patients during their stay in Hospital and in many cases with the families.

Some concern must be expressed at the increasing number of psychopaths coming to the attention of the Department, often requiring a great deal of the Mental Welfare Officer's time with little constructive result at the end as facilities for dealing with this type of case are extremely limited.

There is, however, still difficulty in securing permanent care for the aged mentally ill and the domiciliary services, even when used to the full, are inadequate in many cases of this kind.

Full co-operation with other social agencies has been of great value, particularly Welfare Services, Health Visitors, Children's Department, the Family Case Worker, Housing Department and the Social Security Officers. Much sympathetic help and co-operation has also been received from the Wigan Borough Police.

Voluntary agencies have also assisted the Department on numerous occasions particularly the W.R.V.S. with the supply of clothing and furniture and the ladies of the Red Cross with transport, the Wigan Soroptimist Club and certain individuals.

A Christmas Fair was again held at the Adult Training Centre when approximately £300 was raised, much of this being due to the generosity of local firms and shops.

Account of Work Undertaken in the Community

MENTAL ILLNESS:

Patients notified as mentally ill	....	....	....	....	....	....	320
Dealt with as follows:							
Section 25, Mental Health Act, 1959	....	....	....	....	....	....	52
Section 26, Mental Health Act, 1959	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Section 29, Mental Health Act, 1959	....	....	....	....	....	....	14
Section 60, Mental Health Act, 1959	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Detained during H.M. pleasure	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Informal admissions, Mental Health Act, 1959	....	....	....	....	....	....	149
Care and supervision in the Community	....	....	....	....	....	....	91
No action	....	....	....	....	....	....	36
Total number of visits to patients requiring care and supervision						....	330
Total number of visits to patients requiring after-care	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,115
Total number of patients requiring after-care	....	....	....	....	....	....	387

MENTAL SUBNORMALITY:

Number of patients under Community Care at 31-12-67	....	....	....	....	....	....	126
Number of patients at Adult Training Centre	....	....	....	....	....	....	55
Number of patients at Junior Training Centre	....	....	....	....	....	....	24
Number of patients at Special Care Unit	....	....	....	....	....	....	17
Number of admissions to hospital during the year:							
Temporary care	....	....	....	....	....	....	8
Informal admissions	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Section 25, Mental Health Act, 1959	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Section 26, Mental Health Act, 1959	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Section 29, Mental Health Act, 1959	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Section 60, Mental Health Act, 1959	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Number of patients discharged from hospital during the year	....	....	....	....	....	....	7
Number of patients awaiting admissions to hospital at 31-12-67	....	....	....	....	....	....	—

COMMUNITY CARE AND OTHER WORK OF MENTAL WELFARE OFFICERS:

Total number of domiciliary visits during the year	....	....	....	4,576
Total number of visits to Junior Training Centre	....	....	....	85
Total number of visits to Adult Training Centre ....	....	....	....	239
Total number of visits to Special Care Unit	....	....	....	70
Total number of visits to Day Care Unit ....	....	....	....	151
Total number of visits to Hostel ....	....	....	....	63
Attendances at Billinge Hospital Case Conferences	....	....	....	188
Visits to patients in hospital ....	....	....	....	231
Visits relating to the welfare of patients in hospital	....	....	....	141
Attendances at Psychiatric Clinic ....	....	....	....	40
Special reports for hospitals regarding sub-normal patients	....	....	....	17
Social Histories for hospitals and at Psychiatric Clinics ....	....	....	....	156
Patients accompanied to Psychiatric Clinics ....	....	....	....	221

TRAINING OF THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED

TRAINING CENTRE, HOPE SCHOOL

This Training Centre, which was one of the first purpose-built centres to be erected after the passing of the National Health Service Act, 1946, opened in 1954. The staff comprises a Supervisor and seven Assistant Supervisors. A full-time guide help and a part-time guide help are employed to assist with the care of the trainees both at the Centre and while travelling between the Centre and the home.

There are 35 places in the Junior Training Centre and 12 places in the Special Care Unit of the Centre. The Special Care Unit cares for children and adults who are either too young or too severely retarded to benefit from training at the junior or adult training centres.

At the end of the year there were 23 trainees attending at the centre and 17 at the special care unit. All were Wigan residents and were conveyed to and from the centre by ambulance.

All trainees are examined on entry by a medical officer who also attends the Centre periodically for routine medical inspection. In appropriate cases the re-assessment of mental ability is carried out. A school nurse visits the Centre twice weekly to attend to minor ailments. A midday meal is provided and all children under the age of 16 years receive $\frac{1}{3}$ pint of pasteurised milk each day.

The aim is to help the trainees to live full, happy lives as far as they are able, stressing self-help, occupation and communication. Individual training is needed to help to encourage concentration, memory training and observation. Within the groups sense training apparatus is available to enable them to experiment with various shapes and materials. Purposeful play is the theme in the Nursery class, learning the skills and aptitudes which most children acquire without effort but which do not come easily to retarded children. In the senior class instruction is given to the 15 year olds in the type of work likely to be undertaken at the adult training centre. Particular attention is paid to personal hygiene, use of money, learning to tell the time, social training, general knowledge and conversation.

The admission of children to the junior training centre at the age of 3 or 4 years, and at an even earlier age to the special care unit, is proving to be very successful. The regular early training is beneficial to the children, parents and teachers. The children are keen to come to school, especially those who have no brothers and sisters, and gain from sharing, and playing with other children of their own age. The first experience of social relationship is gained from playing together and, later on, by playing more formal games with various rules. Last year social training was expanded outside the school; small groups were taken out and the children paid their own fares on the public transport and learned the number and destination of the bus, used the public telephone and ordered refreshments in cafes. These outings have greatly helped the children to overcome shyness and to acquire the self assurance to communicate with and establish good relationships with people outside the school.

There has been a certain, if limited, standard attained in the learning of the 3 R's, enough in some cases to enable the children to find their way about in the world of the literate.

In the Special Care Unit, where each child is at least doubly handicapped, progress is most marked and, according to their abilities, the children have learned skills which at first seemed impossible for them to attain. Three children are almost ready to be transferred to the Junior Training Centre.

The staff have continued to help with the training of students. One student has been working in a voluntary capacity for twelve months to gain experience before going on to a two year course for teachers of the mentally handicapped at the Harris College, Preston, and two students from the Harris College did teaching practice at Hope School during the Spring Term.

During the year an educational expedition to Chester Zoo was greatly enjoyed and in September a coach proprietor provided a coach to take the children to see Blackpool Illuminations.

The following is an extract from the attendance register:—

	Hope School	Special Care Unit
No. of children on the register at 1st January, 1967	23	16
No. of admission during the year	4	3
No. of children ceased to attend	4	2
No. of children remaining on register at 31st December, 1967	23	17
Average daily attendance during the year	21	13

FABREX SENIOR TRAINING CENTRE

The aim at Fabrex is to simulate as nearly as possible conditions in open employment and trainees attend from 9 a.m. to 4-30 p.m. from Monday to Friday and take only three weeks holiday each year in addition to public holidays. Small payments are made to the trainees, who receive the money each week in wage packets; preliminary discussions took place concerning the introduction of an incentive bonus scheme for the trainees. The National Coal Board and a number of local firms have co-operated to provide the centre with a wide range of work.

Social training forms an integral part of the educational programme, and occupational therapy, physical training and organised games were encouraged. Social evenings for trainees were held on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9-30 p.m. and an average of 14 trainees attended: members of the staff attended on a rota basis. Male trainees continued to attend swimming lessons at the Wigan Corporation Baths, accompanied by an instructor, and two received certificates for the accomplishment of a mile swim. Female trainees also commenced lessons. Our thanks are due to the Baths Superintendent and his staff for their co-operation in this venture. A trainee took charge of the shop in the centre, which was open twice a day at break times, for the sale of sweets and mineral waters. The main purpose of the shop is to teach the trainees the value of

money. Wherever possible the trainees living within the Borough were encouraged to make their own way to the centre by public transport; those remaining were conveyed by ambulance or mini-bus. Arrangements were made for the trainees to attend the Mass Radiography Unit and no positive result was notified.

Interesting events during the year included an Open Day held on 8th January, when the centre was opened to members of the public, the very successful Christmas Fair which was held by the Parent-Staff Association on 25th November and the Christmas Party. A student who was attending a course for Adult Centre Staff at Harris College, Preston attended the centre for five weeks practical experience.

The staff at Fabrex comprises a Manager, two Senior Instructors and four Instructors. Meals were prepared in the Fabrex kitchen, which came into use on 2nd January, for the trainees and for the children at Hope School.

Borough and County trainees attend the Centre and details of attendances during 1967 are given below:—

	Borough	County	Total
Number of trainees on register on 1st January, 1967	57	9	66
Number of admissions during 1967	7	—	7
Number of trainees ceasing to attend	9	1	10
Number of trainees on register at 31st December, 1967	55	8	63
Average attendance during year	49	7	56

SCOT HOUSE

No community care service is complete without the provision of residential accommodation. In the past it has been discouraging to see a child, who had responded well to training, admitted to hospital care because of the inadequacy of the home environment. Scot House can accommodate six young adults, all in single bedrooms.

At the beginning of the year there were four residents one of whom, unfortunately, had to return to hospital. At the end of the year there were six residents, all of whom were employed at the senior training centre.

A resident Warden is in charge of Scot House assisted by her husband. A relief Warden attends when the Warden is off duty. The aim is to provide a real home for the residents and indications point to considerable success in this direction.

DAY CARE UNIT

This unit at Marsh Green Clinic opened in September, 1965. Aged psychiatric patients and a proportion of mentally stable aged persons attend the unit which is open from 9-30 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Monday to Friday. Those attending are conveyed to and from the Clinic by the Ambulance Service or by private car, a voluntary service which has been promoted by several ladies on a rota basis under the auspices of the Wigan Branch of the British Red Cross Association. The department is grateful indeed for this help. Mid-day meals

are supplied through the Meals on Wheels Service and in addition a drink, prepared on the premises, is provided in the morning and afternoon. Simple diversional therapy and recreational pursuits are organised by the two attendants. A daily charge of 2s. 6d. was made for each person. In April the unit was transferred to purpose-built accommodation in the new Pemberton Health Centre.

During the second full year of functioning of this largely experimental unit the registered number of persons attending increased from seven to twenty-two. Experience so far indicates that the unit fulfils a very real need and consideration is being given to the possibility of extending these facilities to other parts of the town.

CO-ORDINATION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Co-ordination and Co-operation with other parts of the National Health Service

The Chairman of the Health Committee is a member of the Wigan and Leigh Hospital Management Committee. He is also Chairman of the Executive Council for the County Borough of Wigan.

The Medical Officer of Health, whilst not a member of the Hospital Management Committee, serves on the Medical Advisory Committee which is represented on the Management Committee. There is no representative of the local authority at officer level on the Executive Council but the Medical Officer of Health is a member of the Local Medical Committee which reviews the medical administrative aspects of general practitioner services and advises the Executive Council.

In addition to the above, the Medical Officer of Health is a member of a liaison committee whose members include Medical Officers of Health of Counties and County Boroughs in and adjoining the Manchester Regional Hospital Board area, and the Principal Regional Medical Officer of the Regional Hospital Board. The Ministry of Health are also represented.

Locally a liaison committee has been established consisting of representatives of the Wigan and Leigh Hospital Services, both medical and administrative, the local authority services in the persons of the Medical Officer of Health, Wigan, and the Divisional Medical Officers of Divisions 8 and 11 of the Lancashire County Council Health Services, along with representatives, both medical and administrative, from the general practitioner services. The objects of the Committee are "To deal with any matter under the National Health Service Acts where co-operation between the various interests concerned can lead to smoother working and greater efficiency."

During the year the Committee considered the following matters:—Hospital medical staff deputising for general practitioners; intensive care unit; psycho-geriatric beds; general practitioner beds at Billinge Hospital; genito-urinary unit, Wigan Infirmary; admission of acute medical emergencies; and resuscitation following cardiac arrest.

In March, 1963, the Ministry of Health issued a circular 3/63 regarding arrangements for after-care of patients discharged from hospital. It was suggested that local authorities should designate an officer to be responsible for mobilising the community services for discharged patients. All requests for community care are made through this Department and difficulties are minimal because of the unified control over Health and Welfare Services.

In March, 1966, the Department of Education and Science and the Ministry of Health issued a joint circular recommending Local Authorities to take the lead in the co-ordination of Education, Health and Welfare Services for handicapped children and young people.

In Wigan co-ordination of the services for handicapped children and young people has never been a problem as the Medical Officer of Health is in charge of a combined Health and Welfare Department and is also responsible as Principal School Medical Officer for the School Health Service. Excellent relations have long been established with the Hospital Services and there is full interchange of information with the Paediatrician, Orthoptic Surgeon and E.N.T. Surgeon and the Departmental officers concerned with school and pre-school children. The closest co-operation is also maintained with general practitioners and staff attachments to group practices are encouraged.

In order to meet the particular points in the circular a joint Case Conference is held three or four times each year when all children of school age with multiple handicaps are reviewed. The conference is attended by the Consultant Paediatrician, School Medical Officers, the Senior Welfare Officer, Senior Mental Welfare Officer, School Welfare Officer and Youth Employment Officer. In addition the Children's Officer is invited if any child whose case may be discussed is in the care of the local authority or thought to be in need of the fringe services of the Children's Department. From time to time representatives of voluntary organisations who might help with a particular case are invited to attend.

Major Accident Organisation

In the event of a major catastrophe it is essential that all those officers and services who will inevitably be involved shall be aware of the resources, commitments and liabilities of each other and that pre-arranged conventions governing the alerting of the services shall be widely known. To achieve this the co-operation of ambulance, fire, hospital, police and welfare services, both statutory and voluntary, in the County Borough and the surrounding area have been obtained. The Department has published in booklet form, comprehensive schemes drawn up and co-ordinated by officers of the various authorities involved. These schemes are reviewed annually and amendments made in the light of experience.

Section IV

**Prevalence of
and
Control over
Infectious Disease**

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Cases of measles were notified in every month during the year. The total number of notifications was 364 compared with 246 in 1966.

There were 15 notified cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, compared with 22 cases notified and 27 cases of whooping cough, compared with 7 the previous year. No case of paralytic poliomyelitis was notified and for the nineteenth successive year there was no confirmed case of diphtheria.

NOTIFICATIONS

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1967

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	At all Ages	CASES NOTIFIED									
		AGE GROUPS									
		under 1	1 and under 3	3 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over	
Acute Encephalitis, Infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis : Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria and Memb. Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Enteric or Typhoid Fever... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Malaria (contracted abroad)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles	364	26	124	122	85	6	—	1	—	—	
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever	8	—	—	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	
Tuberculosis : Pulmonary	15	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	6	4	
Other Forms	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	
Whooping Cough	27	7	8	5	6	1	—	—	—	—	
TOTALS	420	35	132	132	96	8	2	3	8	4	

Analysis of Notifications by Months, 1967

DISEASE	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Acute Encephalitis: Infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis: Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Memb. Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	83	128	58	48	13	3	9	12	3	2	4	1	364
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	3	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Tuberculosis: Pulmonary	—	—	3	—	4	1	1	1	—	2	3	—	15
Other forms	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Whooping Cough	—	5	6	2	7	1	1	1	—	2	—	2	27
TOTALS	84	136	68	53	27	6	11	14	3	8	7	3	420

Comparative Notifications for the Past Ten Years

DISEASE	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Acute Encephalitis: Infective	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis: Paralytic	1	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Memb. Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	9	12	8	10	6	8	5	7	—	2
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	1
Erysipelas	3	1	2	1	—	—	2	1	—	1
Food Poisoning	6	4	—	2	4	16	3	2	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad)	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	582	488	41	1608	39	700	652	469	246	364
Meningococcal Infection	1	2	1	3	5	3	2	—	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	13	48	2	4	—	—	2	5	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Scarlet Fever	20	25	47	25	6	8	34	17	20	8
Tuberculosis: Pulmonary	36	56	50	34	25	38	27	21	22	15
Other Forms	9	9	3	2	2	3	6	2	5	2
Whooping Cough	10	63	20	—	1	82	9	3	7	27
TOTALS	692	711	176	1692	89	860	742	527	306	420

Tuberculosis

Notifications, 1967

Formal Notifications

			Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of Tuberculosis													
			0—	1—	2—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—	Total (all ages)
Respiratory—Males	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	3	2	3	—	11
Respiratory—Females	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	4
Non-Respiratory—Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Respiratory—Females...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2

Cases Coming to the Notice of the Medical Officer of Health Otherwise than by Formal Notification

[illegible]

New Cases and Mortality During 1967

AGE PERIODS:	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
45—	5	1	—	1	2	—	—	—
65—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
75—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS... ..	11	4	—	2	5	—	—	1

The number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 5 compared with 6 in 1966 and 4 in 1965. No death from other tubercular infections occurred during the year.

Comparative Statistics, 1963 to 1967

Cases Notified

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Pulmonary	38	27	21	22	15
Other forms of tuberculosis	3	6	2	5	2
TOTALS	41	33	23	27	17

Deaths

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Pulmonary	3	3	4	6	5
Other forms of tuberculosis	—	1	—	—	1
TOTALS	3	4	4	6	6

Death Rates

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Pulmonary	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.08	0.06
Other forms of tuberculosis	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
TOTALS	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.08	0.07

DISINFECTION

Distribution of Disinfectants

Disinfectants of proved potency are provided free to the occupiers of houses where infectious disease has occurred, and in cases where there are exceptional circumstances. Other persons who desire supplies are charged a small amount to meet the cost of the disinfectant.

Information on the correct use of these agents is given by the public health inspectors.

Section V

National Assistance Act, 1948

Part III

Welfare Services

ADMINISTRATION

The Authority's Welfare Services, under the National Assistance Act, 1948, continued to be controlled by the Health and Social Services Committee.

The total number of staff employed on Welfare Services at 31st December, 1967, was 111, made up as follows:—

Administrative and Clerical (including persons in charge of Homes)	....	17
Home Staffs (other than person in charge)	.... ....	83
Flats for the Aged — Part-time Wardens	.... ....	5
Staff employed at Social and Handicraft Centres (including Occupational Therapist)	.... ....	4
Home Teachers for the Blind	.... ....	2
		—
		111
		—

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

The following table shows the numbers of aged persons provided with residential accommodation as at the 31st December, 1967.

No. of	Springfield (61)		Douglas Bank (31)		Norley Hall (38)		Rockwood (19)		(Former P.A. Inst.) St. Stephen's House (40)	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Over 90	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
85—90	4	11	2	3	5	2	—	—	—	1
80—85	5	9	2	7	4	4	1	—	1	3
75—80	8	11	1	5	7	3	—	2	8	3
70—75	2	3	2	3	3	2	1	2	6	2
65—70	2	3	—	2	—	2	—	1	3	5
60—65	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Mentally and Physically Infirm	—	3	—	1	—	2	1	2	2	5
Average Ages	82.5		82.5		82.1		77.1		76.6	

Overall average age 80.1

The most marked feature in our work in this service is the changing social pattern of the residents in Part III accommodation. Shortage of psychiatric and geriatric hospital beds on the one hand and the provision of warden controlled flatlet accommodation on the other have combined to change the type of case admitted to residential units. The average age of residents is now 80 years and an increasing proportion are very infirm or handicapped. Great stresses were being placed on the "caring staff" of these establishments and during the year the establishments at Springfield, Norley Hall and Douglas Bank were increased by two additional female attendants in order to provide more adequate day and night coverage.

It is very pleasing to record that, in November, building commenced on the Bottling Wood Hostel which is to replace the ex-Poor Law Institution.

Short-Term Care

This is an extremely valuable service for it enables families and individuals who are devotedly caring for their aged relatives and friends to have a brief respite, perhaps to proceed on holiday. During the year "Short term care" was provided for 42 old persons.

During 1967 the number of admissions to Part III accommodation was as follows:—

	M.	F.
(1) From own homes, lodgings, etc., (including short stay)	44	59
(2) From Hospitals	32	25

The numbers discharged from Part III accommodation were as follows:—

(1) No. dying in Homes	5	14
(2) No. transferred to Hospital	46	32
(3) No. discharged elsewhere	15	6
(4) No. leaving after "short-stay"	9	33

Hostel for Men

In addition to the above, 14 men were accommodated in the former Institution. These men require less attention and their need for care arises principally from their lack of supervised accommodation and elementary comforts.

Admission Arrangements

Cases for admission are brought to the notice of the department by personal application, by relatives, by general practitioners, members of the Council, Public Health Inspectors, Health Visitors, and so on. There is always a considerable number of persons awaiting admission, and it will be obvious that to admit applicants on a "first come — first served" basis would be impracticable. Some cases are of a more urgent nature and the date of application is therefore ignored in assessing priority. All cases are visited frequently and as a vacancy arises it is allocated to an aged person in most urgent need of care.

Where hospital patients are fit for discharge but unable to return home for any reason they are interviewed by a welfare officer and their names are entered on the waiting list. In this sphere, close liaison is maintained with the Consultant Geriatrician and the Almoners.

Charges for Accommodation

The Standard Charge for the year was:—

St. Stephen's House, Douglas Bank House, Norley Hall, Rockwood and Springfield £7 11s. 4d. per week.

CARE OF THE AGED

Domiciliary Visiting

Aged Persons living alone in Wigan:—

WARD	Men	Women	WARD	Men	Women
St. George	17	58	Swinley	49	314
Lindsay	35	175	All Saints	12	68
St. Catherine	33	149	Pemberton West	22	126
St. Patrick	50	184	Pemberton North	46	285
St. Thomas	34	162	Pemberton Central	76	319
St. Andrew	95	515	Pemberton South	55	210

A register of these people is kept in the Department and the information includes particulars of relatives and friends with the frequency of visitation, the family doctor, nature of any disability, an indication of services provided, together with a resume of the social conditions and financial circumstances. Welfare Officers made 3,387 visits to aged people living in their own homes. Advice and guidance has been welcomed, and a pre-paid postcard was left with each person so that, in the event of their requiring any assistance, advice or welfare services in any way, they had only to post the card and a Welfare Officer would visit to render any assistance that might be required. The elderly appear to be bewildered by the complexity of the social services, and simple matters become, to them, problems of considerable difficulty. It is considered that the solution of these problems by the Welfare Officers made a difference to the mental contentment of the old persons concerned.

Excellent relationships exist between officers of the Ministry of Social Security and those of the Department. There is an interchange of information regarding old people for whose benefit the services of either Authority are being provided.

Warden Controlled Flatlets for the Aged

There are now 148 flatlets in five units:—

Thorburn House	33 flatlets
Alexandra House	25 flatlets
Clifton House	25 flatlets
Acton House	25 flatlets
*Brackley House	40 flatlets

* 5 aged persons bungalows are connected by communication system to the Warden's flat.

The Welfare Services Section has been closely involved with the provision of community amenities, the appointment of wardens and the assessment of priorities for admission.

Handicraft Classes are held in the Communal Lounges on one afternoon each week and film shows are given periodically by the Wigan Cine Club. These are much appreciated by the tenants, and have been a means of their getting to know each other more easily.

The combination of independence and companionship works well in practice, and the presence of a Warden, who can offer assistance in case of illness or emergency, removes the fear which otherwise hangs over aged persons who live alone.

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

At the 31st December, 1967, 3 families were accommodated in the flatlets at the Welfare Home.

The work of helping problem families is quite considerable and is time-consuming and arduous. Results are, at times, unrewarding but, on the other hand, some gratifying successes have been achieved where intensive work had been undertaken and where the family had improved to the extent that it had been able to take its proper place in the community.

So many people are concerned with problem families that to avoid duplication and divided responsibilities, an ad hoc committee composed of representatives of Health and Welfare, Housing, Children's, Education Welfare Departments, Moral Welfare Society, Ministry of Social Security, Probation Service and N.S.P.C.C., meets bi-monthly to discuss and consider in detail the best ways and means of helping particular problem family cases.

OTHER SERVICES

Holidays at Rockwood, Colwyn Bay

Holidays at the Council's Aged Persons' Home at Colwyn Bay were provided for aged persons who were in need of care and attention for a limited period, whose relatives or friends were themselves desirous of taking a holiday but who for the remainder of the year were prepared to care for them in their own homes.

Section 47. Removal of Persons in Need of Care and Attention

It was not found necessary to take action under this Section during the year. Cases have arisen where Section 47 procedure might have been applied but has been avoided due to the satisfactory re-adjustment of the old person's mode of life, habits, etc., made possible through the efforts of the officers of the Health and Welfare Department.

Section 48. Protection of Movable Property

No applications were received during the year requesting the Authority to provide protection of movable property.

Section 50. Burial of the Dead

Under this Section of the Act, Local Authorities must accept responsibility for the burial or cremation of the body of any person who has died or been found dead in their area, where it appears that no other person or organisation will do so. The decision of the Ministry of Health that the cost of burial of patients dying in hospital could be a proper charge on health service funds, has somewhat relieved the financial burden.

During the year, the service was provided in 2 cases.

WELFARE ARRANGEMENTS FOR HANDICAPPED PERSONS

Section 29.

Welfare of the Blind

The functions of the Authority are administered on an agency basis by the Wigan, Leigh and District Society for the Blind. Two Home Teachers are employed and seconded to the Society for duty. The Society provides sheltered employment and training for suitable blind persons, enabling them to engage in work in Workshops for the Blind.

The Home Teaching Service is operated by the Society and is available to all types of people who have become blind. Their needs vary considerably — financial assistance, education, training for employment, pastime occupations, handicrafts and cultural interests. In the course of their duties, the Home Teachers endeavour to establish a friendly contact between themselves and the blind persons, so as to inspire confidence and understanding in their association. Regular visiting in their homes is carried out and help given regarding housing, home-help service, etc. The Home Teachers also act as escorts to blind persons attending hospital.

The care of the Deaf Blind persons without speech is one of the most difficult problems confronting the Home Teacher. All Deaf Blind persons must have regular visits and means of communication (*e.g.* The Manual Alphabet) must be taught and used.

The Society act as agents for the “British Wireless for the Blind” Fund and install and maintain all sets free of charge.

The Health Committee pay the rentals on 28 Talking Book Machines which have been loaned to blind persons, and are much appreciated.

Extra amenities, such as trips to the seaside, holiday grants, Christmas grants and all kinds of social activities are provided by the Society from the Voluntary Fund and it is only by the generosity of the many donors to the Fund that the Society is able to provide these services to the blind people of the area.

Classification of Registered Blind Persons by Age Groups

Age Group	Total Register 31-12-67			New Cases Registered during 1967	
	M.	F.	Total	Age at Registration	
				M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	3	1	4	—	—
11—15	1	1	2	—	—
16—20	1	1	2	—	—
21—30	1	—	1	—	—
31—39	6	2	8	—	—
40—49	5	6	11	1	—
50—59	7	8	15	—	1
60—64	1	2	3	—	2
65—69	9	12	21	1	1
70—79	15	27	42	2	5
80 and over	13	25	38	4	6
			62	85	147
				8	15

Ages at which Blindness Occurred

Age Group	Total Register			New Cases Registered during 1967		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
0	10	7	17	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	1	—	1	—	—	—
3	—	1	1	—	—	—
4	—	1	1	—	—	—
5—10	1	2	3	—	—	—
11—15	3	2	5	—	—	—
16—20	2	1	3	—	—	—
21—30	7	4	11	1	—	1
31—39	4	2	6	1	—	1
40—49	6	4	10	—	2	2
50—59	5	12	17	—	1	1
60—64	6	13	19	1	2	3
65—69	5	10	15	1	1	2
70—79	8	20	28	2	5	7
80 and over	4	6	10	2	4	6
			62	85	147	
				8	15	23

During the year ended 31st December, 1967, 23 names were added to the Register of Blind Persons and 21 names were removed. Details are shown on the following table:—

No. of registered blind persons at 31-12-66	....	....	....	145
Registered 1st January to 31st December, 1967	....	....	19	
Transfers into Area	....	....	4	
Re-certified	....	....	—	23
				<hr/>
				168
Deaths	....	....	19	
Removals out of Area	....	....	—
De-certified	....	....	2	
			—	21
				<hr/>
No. on Register 31-12-67	....	....	....	147
				<hr/>

The cause of blindness in the above new cases was as follows:—

	Males	Females
Congenital	—	1
Cataract	—	4
Glaucoma and Cataract	1	3
Corneal Dystrophy	—	1
Senile Macular Degeneration	2	—
Macular Degeneration and Optic Atrophy	1	—
Diabetic Retinopathy	1	—
Retinal Degeneration....	—	1
Myopia	—	1
Macular Degeneration and Cataract	—	1
Syphilis	—	1
Diabetes	—	1
Glaucoma	2	—
Macular Degeneration	1	1

Follow-up of Registered Blind Persons

(1) No. of cases registered as blind during the year in respect of which Sec. F. Para. 1 of Forms B.D.8 recommends:—	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental	Others
			Fibro-plasia	
(a) No treatment	2	1	—	2
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical)	3	5	—	5
(2) No. of cases at (1)(b) above, which on follow up action, have received treatment	1	5	—	1
(3) No of cases at (2)				
(a) Vision improved	—	—	—	—
(b) Sight restored	—	—	—	—
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year	1	5	—	1

Follow-up of Registered Partially Sighted Persons

		Causes of Disability			
				Retrolental Fibro- plasia	Others
(1)	No. of cases registered as partially sighted during the year 1967, in respect of which Sec. F. Para. 1 of Forms B.D.8 recommends:—	Cataract	Glaucoma		
(a)	No treatment	—	—	—	1
(b)	Treatment (medical, surgical or optical)	4	2	—	3
(2)	No. of cases at (1)(b) above, which on follow-up action, have received treatment	2	2	—	3
(3)	No. of cases at (2) above, in which:—				
(a)	Vision improved	2	—	—	—
(b)	Sight restored	—	—	—	—
(c)	Treatment continuing at end of year	1	2	—	3

Register of Partially-Sighted Persons

Age Group		Registered at 31-12-67			Registered during 1967		
		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	....	1	1	2	—	—	—
11—15	....	3	—	3	—	—	—
16—20	....	2	—	2	—	—	—
21—30	....	1	2	3	—	—	—
31—39	....	1	—	1	—	—	—
40—49	....	1	—	1	—	—	—
50—59	....	3	2	5	—	1	1
60—64	....	2	3	5	—	2	2
65—69	....	4	1	5	1	1	2
70—79	....	6	10	16	1	3	4
80 and over	....	2	6	8	—	1	1
		26	25	51	2	8	10

Welfare of Blind Children

Three blind children, who have been ascertained under the Education Act (Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations) as being in need of special educational treatment, are being maintained by the Authority as follows:

	M.	F.
The Royal Normal College, Rowton, Shrewsbury	—	1
St. Vincent's School for the Blind, West Derby, Liverpool	1	—
Sunshine Home, Southport	—	1

Workshop Employment

The types of employment and extent of provision available for Borough cases are as follows:—

Brush making	....	....	....	4
Basket making	....	....	....	2
Machine knitters	....	....	....	1
Piano tuning	....	....	....	1
Salesman	....	....	....	1
Cleaner	....	....	....	1

Home Workers

There is no Home Workers' Scheme in Wigan.

Placement in Open Industry

The following arrangements have been agreed for carrying out the placement of blind persons in open industry.

- (1) That each case within the area of the Wigan County Borough be dealt with as it arises.
- (2) That the operation of the placement service be dealt with jointly by the Medical Officer of Health through the Welfare Services Section, the Voluntary Society for the Blind through the Superintendent, and the Local Disablement Resettlement Officer.

Welfare of the Deaf

The functions of the Authority are, in accordance with the Approved scheme administered on an agency basis by the Wigan and District Deaf and Dumb Society, acting as agents for the County Borough of Wigan.

Deaf Register—Grouping

	Male	Female
Children under 16:		
Attending Special School	7	3
Persons 16 and upwards:		
Employed	22	8
Unemployed but capable of, and available for, training for work	—	—
Incapable of, or not available for, work	7	14
	36	25
	61	

Register of the Deaf defined as in Ministry of Health Circular 25/61

MALE		Under 16 yrs.	16–64 yrs.	65 yrs. & over
Deaf without speech	....	7	15	7
Deaf with speech	....	—	6	1
FEMALE				
Deaf without speech	....	3	12	6
Deaf with speech	....	—	4	—

Welfare

During the year a considerable amount of time was spent in placing deaf persons in employment and assisting school leavers to find jobs, in co-operation with the Youth Employment Officer. The Society stresses the importance of placing deaf persons in employment where they will be happy and contented.

Visits to deaf people in their own homes brings the human element very much to the fore; personal problems and family difficulties all need careful understanding and prompt attention. Interpretation, on the occasions when it is of prime necessity that everything is understood by the deaf, is another important aspect of the work which cannot be too strongly stressed.

Accommodation

	Males	Females
Home for the Aged and Infirm Deaf, Blackpool	1	1

Social

Social life has followed very much the same pattern, with socials and events at the Institute for the members, bowls, football matches, hiking and camping being the outdoor pursuits.

Regular services were held in the Institute Chapel during the year.

Welfare of the Hard of Hearing

There are 259 known hard-of-hearing persons in the Wigan Borough area.

During the year, help was provided through the local Society for the Deaf in obtaining repairs of Medresco Hearing Aids. Advice and assistance have also been given in individual cases. There is a local Hard-of Hearing Fellowship which has a membership of 30.

Handicapped Persons (General Classes)

CLASSIFICATION OF GENERALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS

HANDICAP	Adults		Children		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Amputation	36	7	—	—	43
Arthritis and Rheumatism	14	21	—	—	35
Congenital Malformations	24	15	1	—	40
Diseases	67	30	—	—	97
Injuries	72	8	—	—	80
Organic Nervous Diseases	68	69	1	—	138
Other Nervous and Mental					
Deformities	21	16	—	—	37
T.B. (Respiratory)	10	5	—	—	15
T.B. (non-Respiratory)	3	—	—	—	3
Other disorder (not specified					
above)	7	7	—	—	14
	322	178	2	—	502

Handicapped Persons (Accommodation)

Six Handicapped Persons are in accommodation provided by other authorities as follows:—

	Males	Females
Maghull Homes for Epileptics	—	3
Cripples' Help Society, Tan-y-Bryn, Abergele	—	1
St. Elizabeth's Home for Epileptics, Much Hadam	—	1
Royal National Institute for the Blind	1	—

Adaptations

The Scheme authorises the Council to incur expenditure on alterations to the homes of handicapped persons so as to assist them to overcome the effects of their disability. Most of the applications arise as a result of the proposed issue of wheelchairs or invalid tricycles by the Ministry of Health, when there is a need for assistance towards the cost of making a pavement crossing or providing an access path to the storage shed. 5 handicapped people were helped in this way during the year.

Handicrafts

Handicraft classes are held at the Social Centres in Crompton Street and Tunstall Lane, and visits are made to homebound handicapped persons.

During the year 227 classes were held and 236 visits made to the homebound.

Handicapped persons are taking advantage of the facilities offered at the Centres and have been encouraged to attend the handicraft classes provided. The types of work undertaken by the men are rug-making, basketry, lampshades, tapestry, leatherwork; the main occupations of the women being crochet work, embroidery, hand and machine knitting, woodwork, lampshades, dress-making, millinery and raffia work.

There appears to be a very happy atmosphere in the Classes and many new friendships have been made.

Other Services

Holidays have been arranged for several blind and other severely disabled persons at the Aged Persons' Home at Colwyn Bay.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Considerable help has been given by the Rotary Club, W.R.V.S., Red Cross, Old People's Welfare Committees, Churches, Salvation Army, Youth Organisations and Dramatic Societies in connection with the welfare of aged and handicapped persons. During the year the following amenities were provided:—

- Outings for handicapped people
- Food parcels and coal to needy and elderly persons
- Books, magazines, etc., to Homes and Centres
- Clothing for necessitous cases
- Visiting elderly persons
- Complimentary tickets for social events
- Film shows.

Section VI

**Sanitary Circumstances
of the Area**

WATER SUPPLY

The responsibility for the supply of water to the Borough is vested in the Makerfield Water Board. During the year the sources of supply have changed but have been found satisfactory as regards quantity and quality.

I am indebted to Mr. A. E. Round, Engineer and Manager of the Board, for the following information:

Chemical analyses of the various sources remain virtually unchanged and the results of bacteriological examination of supplies in the area are as follows:—

		No. of results showing Coliform bacilli		Bact. Coli
		Coliform bacilli absent	present	(Type 1) present
Raw water ....	....	2	10	9
Treated water ....	....	160	2	0

Chemical Analysis

Representative results from each major source are shown in the table on page 104.

The waters have apparently shown no tendency towards plumbo-solvent action and no special precautions are taken apart from routine chemical analysis in regard to this.

Action taken in respect of any form of contamination is as follows:—

If contamination occurs above the treatment works, this is either combatted by temporarily increasing chlorination, or if the contamination is too serious for this to be practicable, the supply in question is taken out of service temporarily.

In the case of contamination showing up in any “district” samples, immediate re-sampling is undertaken, and in the event of this confirming contamination, the main or service affected is disconnected and chlorinated after which a further series of samples are taken until the matter is cleared up.

The number of dwelling houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains direct to the houses are as follows:—

Dwelling houses	....	....	....	....	....	26,050
Population	....	....	....	....	....	79,720

No houses are supplied by means of standpipes.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Practically the whole of the Borough is sewered and drained. The sewage is conducted from the town by two main outfall sewers (27ins. and 36ins. in diameter) to the Sewage Disposal Works at Hoscar — which are seven miles distant. Before leaving the Town the sewage is passed through detritus tanks and fine screens, where grit and gross solid matters are removed mechanically. At this point, storm water flows in excess of 3 dry weather flow and up to a maximum of 6 dry weather flow are treated in the storm water tanks. During storms of high intensity, flows in excess of 6 dry weather flow pass direct into the River Douglas.

The main treatment works at Hoscar provides full treatment for five million gallons per day, dry weather flow, of sewage and trade effluent. One million gallons of this is trade effluent from a food factory.

The sewage flow enters the Hoscar Works *via* the outfall Pumping Station, designed to increase the carrying capacity of the outfall sewers. Preliminary settlement is carried out in four radial flow tanks equipped with electrically-operated desludging gear. The settled sewage gravitates to four batteries of biological filters designed to operate as either single, alternate double, or re-circulation filters. Two automatic pumping stations controlled by flow recorders provide accurate proportioning of the re-circulated effluents. Before passing forward to the River Douglas the filtered effluents receive adequate settlement for removal of filter solids. The combined sludges from the sedimentary processes are treated in single stage heated digestion tanks prior to de-watering on sludge drying beds. Four dual fuel engine generating sets, designed to operate on diesel oil, or on methane gas evolved during digestion of the sludge, have been installed. These provide the whole of the power requirements in respect of pumping, lighting and heating on the new works.

During the year ended 31st March, 1967 the following amounts of sewage have been treated at the Hoscar Moss and Pemberton Sewage Works:—

Pemberton Storm Water Works	318,150,000	gallons
Hoscar Works	2,261,480,000	„
<hr/>		
TOTAL SEWAGE TREATED	2,579,630,000	„
Total solids removed, detritus tanks and screen chambers.		
Pemberton	3,512	tons
Total solids removed, Hoscar Works	52,046	„
Total dried sludge recovered, Hoscar Works (Dry solids)	1,296	„
Weight of dried solids per million gallons of sewage	0.573	„
Rainfall for year (Hoscar Works)	37.19	inches

PUBLIC BATHS

Wigan's new baths are situated at the junction of Library Street and Chapel Lane. This imposing building was partially completed and opened on 14th May, 1966. The second phase of the building was completed and handed over on 1st November, 1967.

The main pool is built to international standards and is 165ft. long by 42ft. Diving facilities are provided in the form of one, three, five and ten metre boards. Two other pools are incorporated into the building, one is a 25 yard training pool, used by Schools and Swimming Clubs, and the other is a shallow water pool designed and used particularly for Swimming Instruction.

BATHERS 1967

Swimming	....	....	....	....	....	334,659
Education Dept. (children under instruction)	....					83,081
Private Baths and Showers	....	....	....			19,269
Russian Bath	....	....	....	....	....	11,305
						<hr/> 448,314

Number of Bathers during the past five years.

1963	....	....	....	....	....	170,355
1964	....	....	....	....	....	204,193
1965	....	....	....	....	....	226,536
1966	....	....	....	....	....	391,714
1967	....	....	....	....	....	448,314

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Mr. E. Cox, the Director of Public Cleansing, has supplied the following particulars:—

Refuse Collection and Disposal—Dry house refuse and trade refuse was collected by mechanical transport and 84 per cent was disposed of by tipping.

Nightsoil and Pail Refuse—The refuse (330 tons) was disposed of direct to farmers as manure. All pails were washed and disinfected after each collection.

Trade Refuse—Fixed charges were introduced on 1st November, 1950, for the removal of trade refuse. The shops and business premises in the town centre had a daily collection.

A large amount, (2,700 tons) of trade refuse was delivered at the tipping site by private traders and contractors.

A scale of charges, in accordance with vehicle capacity was operated.

Gully Cleansing—During the year, 16,996 gullies were emptied.

Public Conveniences—The following conveniences and urinals were maintained and cleansed by the Department:

1 public convenience for ladies and gentlemen, with attendants.

7 public conveniences for ladies and gentlemen, without attendants.

12 public urinals.

All urinals were cleaned and inspected twice a day, once on Sundays.

General—The quantity of refuse dealt with by the Refuse Disposal Plant during the year 1967 was 4,768 tons, and the quantity tipped was 26,005 tons. In April, 1950, the Corporation introduced a Dustbins Renewal Scheme, as a direct rate charge. During the year 1,004 bins were renewed and 297 sold to private properties not included in the scheme. In addition, 46 bulk containers were supplied for use at the new blocks of flats and certain industrial premises.

124, 000,000 square yards of street were swept during the year.

CREMATION

The Medical Officer of Health, his Deputy and an Assistant Medical Officer on the Health Department staff act as medical referees to the Corporation Crematorium. During the year, 989 certificates for cremation were issued.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION

Mr. J. B. Marsh, Chief Public Health Inspector, reports:

Reorganisation of the public health inspectors' section resulted in a full establishment of officers by May, although to gain this objective it was necessary to combine two of the newly-created posts and to appoint our newly qualified student inspector. Such a return to a full staff produced a large increase of work over the full range of duties.

The rate of re-housing of people from unfit houses has been maintained but the demolition of empty unfit houses has almost doubled. By the end of the year 794 had been demolished and 3 closed as unfit for human habitation. 399 families comprising 1,224 persons were re-housed by the Council.

The Council declared two new Improvement Areas Nos. 6 and 7 during the year and the rate of completion of both standard and discretionary grants approval was maintained. Also in the course of improvement were two areas of the Council's own older pre-war property.

A restart was made to the town's Smoke Control Area programme by the making of No. 4 Order. It is anticipated that the new smoke control order, when operative, will improve atmospheric conditions in the commercial centre of the town, especially during winter months. The position regarding industrial atmospheric pollution continues to improve, principally because of the installation of modern fuel plant and the erection of chimneys for optimum disposal of products of combustion.

A large increase in the number of general inspections under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act was noted. A similar increase in notification of accidents also occurred but this was due to employers being made aware of their legal responsibility to notify certain accidents, rather than an actual increase. Work under the Act is the subject of a separate detailed annual report made to the Minister of Labour. However, a summary of that report is included for information.

Samples of food, drugs and water were submitted for chemical and bacteriological analysis, the results being generally satisfactory. The position concerning the description, labelling and advertising of food was also found to be satisfactory. Samples of animal feeding stuffs, fertilisers and filling materials for upholstery, etc. were also taken and no adverse reports were received.

Summary of Work Undertaken During the Year

[illegible]

Letters issued <i>re</i> Nuisances	....	....	....	....	....	....	307
Visits to premises <i>re</i> Housing Acts	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,282
Re-visits to premises <i>re</i> Housing Acts	....	....	....	....	....	....	695
Visits <i>re</i> Certificates of Disrepair	....	....	....	....	....	....	10
„ Infectious diseases and food poisoning	....	....	....	....	....	....	80
Visits to slaughterhouses	....	....	....	....	....	....	3934
Visits <i>re</i> Offensive trades	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Visits to markets	....	....	....	....	....	....	88
„ butchers' shops	....	....	....	....	....	....	101
„ food preparers	....	....	....	....	....	....	68
„ caterers	....	....	....	....	....	....	143
„ other food shops	....	....	....	....	....	....	449
„ dairies	....	....	....	....	....	....	15
„ milkshops	....	....	....	....	....	....	14
„ ice-cream manufacturers	....	....	....	....	....	....	9
„ ice-cream shops	....	....	....	....	....	....	35
„ bakehouses	....	....	....	....	....	....	44
„ houses in multiple occupation	....	....	....	....	....	....	64
„ factories — power	....	....	....	....	....	....	213
„ factories — non-power	....	....	....	....	....	....	5
„ cinemas	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
„ places of entertainment	....	....	....	....	....	....	30
„ Shops <i>re</i> Shops Act	....	....	....	....	....	....	13
Shops Act observations	....	....	....	....	....	....	72
Visits to delivery vans and stalls	....	....	....	....	....	....	923
„ <i>re</i> Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	....	....	....	....	....	....	1365
„ rats and mice — dwellings	....	....	....	....	....	....	2,441
„ „ other premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	660
„ smoke abatement	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,424
„ Poisons Act	....	....	....	....	....	....	11
Visits to premises <i>re</i> applications for tenancy of Council houses	....	....	....	....	....	....	15
„ verminous premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	124
Reports to Borough Engineer <i>re</i> dangerous structures	....	....	....	....	....	....	11
Watercourse Inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	26
Visits to Licensed Premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	124
„ <i>re</i> Standard Grants	....	....	....	....	....	....	392
„ conversions	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
„ Improvement Grants	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,487
„ Housing Survey	....	....	....	....	....	....	155
„ Noise abatement	....	....	....	....	....	....	13
„ Merchandise Marks Act	....	....	....	....	....	....	42
„ Betting and Gaming Act.	....	....	....	....	....	....	1

Samples Obtained

Foods and Drugs	....	....	....	....	....	....	201
Water (for chemical analysis)	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Water, Milk and Ice-cream (for bacteriological examination)	....	....	....	....	....	....	391
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	....	....	....	....	....	....	13
Rag flock	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Nightdresses (Safety) Regulations	....	....	....	....	....	....	4

AIR POLLUTION

The investigation of air pollution is carried out by the Warren Spring Laboratory: a branch of the Ministry of Technology. The Council is a contributor to the national survey of smoke and sulphur dioxide. The equipment used is standard and consists of a deposit guage the contents of which are analysed monthly, and a daily smoke filter and volumetric sulphur dioxide apparatus. Below is a monthly analysis of the grit fallout collected by the deposit guage.

DEPOSIT GUAGE AT WIGAN INFIRMARY

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Month -lyAv.
Total Solids (tons/sq. mile)	16.23.	13.28	11.58	5.09	15.00	9.56	10.62	10.43	9.66	11.84	9.75	8.38	11.47
Insoluble Solids (tons/sq. mile)	8.65	6.82	5.89	4.49	8.18	4.83	5.00	4.55	3.48	4.13	4.36	3.49	5.32

Domestic Pollution

One new smoke control order, the County Borough of Wigan (No. 4) Smoke Control Order 1967, has been made during the year. The new order covers most of the town centre affecting 927 premises, including 629 dwellings, and comes into operation on the 1st August, 1968. The great majority of dwellings in the area are newly built council owned flats equipped with electric underfloor heating and require no work of adaptation. Conversion of firegrates in the remaining privately owned dwellings is proceeding.

Two further proposed smoke control areas, Nos. 5 and 6, containing approximately 1,504 and 494 premises respectively, have been surveyed and it ia hoped that the orders will be made in the near future.

The position as regards confirmed smoke control areas is now as follows:—

Operative Smoke Control Areas

		Acres	Dwellings	Factories	Other Premises	Date of Operation
No. 1	....	97	870	1	24	1st July, 1962.
No. 2	....	609	621	3	35	1st December, 1962.
No. 3	....	550	1,501	2	18	1st December, 1963.
No. 4	....	64	629	1	297	1st August, 1968

During the year a number of complaints have been received of smoke from dwellings included in existing smoke control areas. In most cases a visit and warning to the occupier concerned has been sufficient to prevent a recurrence of the complaint.

Occupiers of dwellings at the Marsh Green Corporation owned housing estate, which is included in the No. 3 Smoke Control Order, have for some time experienced difficulty when burning smokeless fuel on their inset coke grates.

Trials of various kinds of solid fuel burning appliances and electrical storage heaters are at present being carried out at selected dwellings in order that a satisfactory and smokeless means of heating may be provided.

Industrial Pollution

Observations of smoke from commercial and industrial premises have been taken on a number of occasions during the year. Management, when approached regarding this problem, have generally been co-operative and shown willingness to take the necessary steps to keep atmospheric pollution from this source to a minimum. Modification to existing plant has been carried out at the request of the department in some cases.

Most smoke emissions have been found to be due to an unforeseen mechanical breakdown.

Chimney Heights

Plans showing proposals to erect 7 new chimneys were received. In each case a satisfactory height was agreed upon and the plans subsequently passed.

Prior Approval of Boiler Plant

Proposals to instal new boiler equipment were received from 5 applicants. All the plans were approved as being satisfactory.

Smoke Offences

During the year it was not considered necessary to serve any notices under Section 16 of the Clean Air, 1956.

Offensive Trades

The offensive trade premises in the Borough comprise: 1 fell-monger and 2 gut scrapers.

A new offensive trade concerned with gut scraping was established early in the year. This factory is situated well away from domestic premises and was constructed to the Department's requirements. It is anticipated that no nuisance will occur.

Visits have been paid to these premises and no cause for complaint has been found.

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations, 1951

Four samples were taken during the year and the results of the examinations were satisfactory.

Factories Acts

218 routine visits were made to factories and other premises in the area. The tables below show the conditions found and action taken.

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	319	203	48	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	19	10	2	—
TOTAL	342	218	50	—

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	2	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temp. (S.3.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—	—
(S.6.)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient	7	—	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	128	—	—	4	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	137	—	—	6	—

Outworkers

From the lists received 15 persons were engaged on outwork — 13 in basket making and 2 in wearing apparel. Although the manufacture of washleathers does not appear to be one of the occupations applying to outworkers, for a number of years returns indicate that this type of work is being carried on. Lists indicate that 6 persons are so engaged.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

This Act makes provision for the health, safety and welfare of persons employed in those premises and its provisions follow closely those of the Factories Act. The work under the Act is the subject of a separate annual report made to the Ministry of Labour. The figures appended below relate to those premises for which the local authority are responsible. In the main, the Ministry of Labour is responsible for those offices in factories, crown offices and local authority offices, the local authority is responsible for all others.

Inspections

786 general inspections were made during the year. 599 other visits were carried out.

SUMMARY OF CONTRAVENTIONS FOUND DURING GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Eating facilities	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Floors, passages and stairs	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	85
Fencing, exposed parts of machinery	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	11
Washing facilities	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	123
Supply of drinking water	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Cleanliness	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	112
Overcrowding	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Lighting	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	97
Sanitary Conveniences	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	117
Abstract of Act	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	216
Clothing Accommodation	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	19
Sitting facilities	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Temperature (thermometers)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	112
Temperature (heating)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	19
Ventilation	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	39
First Aid — General Provisions	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	172

Registered Premises

CLASS OF PREMISES	No. of premises registered at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during year
Offices	278	219
Shops	510	453
Wholesale shops, warehouses	58	29
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	83	84
Fuel storage depots	3	1

Notifiable Accidents

64 notifiable accidents were recorded during the year, none of these has been fatal. It is noted that falls again proved to be the most common cause of accident with the handling of goods coming a close second.

The increase in the number of accidents is due to the notification of accidents by a large mail order office and warehouse in the Borough which had failed to notify accidents to this office.

Analysis of Persons Employed

CLASS OF WORKPLACE	No. of persons employed
Offices	3394
Shops	2564
Wholesale departments, warehouses	865
Catering establishments open to public	792
Canteens	18
Fuel storage depots	20
	<hr/>
Total	7653
Total males	2488
Total females	5165

Legal Proceedings

A garage company appealed against a conviction for a contravention of Sect. 10 (1) of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, but the appeal was not heard during 1967.

The part of the Shops Act, 1950, relating to closing hours, Sunday trading and half-day holidays is still in force. A complaint was received regarding the sale of prohibited commodities during half-day closing, on observation repeated offences came to light and legal proceedings are pending.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933

No. of "Listed Sellers" on register	58
-------------------------------------	------	------	------	----

PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT

These premises are invariably kept in a satisfactory condition. In addition to routine visits all the places of entertainment are inspected and reported on annually prior to the granting of the licence.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Every reported infestation of rats or mice is investigated. All outbreaks occurring on domestic premises are treated free of charge, whilst treatment on industrial or business premises is charged for. In addition, the sewerage system is treated by baiting manholes.

This year some 1,000 manholes were treated with sodium fluoracetamide and a 10% test bait proved that the treatment had been very effective.

Visits paid by rodent operatives:—

Dwelling houses								2399
Other premises								257

Section VII

Housing

SLUM CLEARANCE

During the year 591 houses were represented as being unfit for human habitation but whereas in former years the emphasis has been on the individual unfit procedure this year the clearance area procedure with compulsory purchase powers was used once again. This secures the orderly demolition and proper redevelopment of the cleared sites.

Individual Unfit Properties

No. of unfit houses represented to committee	....	....	....	....	62
,, demolition orders made	....	....	....	....	56
,, closing orders made	....	....	....	....	6

Clearance Area-Compulsory Purchase Orders

Pottery Street Order containing 85 houses was confirmed.
 Atherton Street Order containing 21 houses was confirmed.
 Wood Street Order containing 76 houses was confirmed.
 Anderton Street Order containing 303 houses was confirmed.
 Miry Lane/Swan Street Order containing 52 houses was confirmed.
 Howard Street Order containing 33 houses was confirmed.
 Ormskirk Road/Gower Street Order containing 28 houses was submitted and confirmed.
 Soho Street/Douglas Street Order containing 16 houses was submitted and confirmed.
 Platt Lane Order containing 353 houses was submitted.
 Caroline Street/Hodson Street Order containing 127 houses was submitted.

DEMOLITION AND RE-HOUSING

	No. of houses	Persons	Families
Houses Demolished in Clearance Areas	267	872	281
Houses Demolished as a result of action under Sect. 16 and 17 of Housing Act	527	352	118
Unfit houses closed....	3	10	3
Local authority-owned houses demolished	5	6	2

HOUSE IMPROVEMENT

Improvement Areas

In addition to individual applications for grant aid the Authority designated two additional Improvement Areas during the year, making a total of 7 such areas. It is the intention to secure the improvement of all houses in these areas including the use of compulsory powers if necessary. The position in the 7 areas at the end of 1967 was as follows:

Improvement Area	No. in Area	No. below Standard	No. Improved
No. 1 (Swinley)	82	58	COMPLETED
No. 2 (Scholes)	90	86	79
No. 3 (Springfield)	128	81	73
No. 4 (Springfield)	211	137	56
No. 5 (Springfield)	284	222	102
No. 6 (Gidlow)	140	114	5
No. 7 (Gidlow)	404	293	17

Owners in these areas have responded to the Council's intentions and it has not been necessary to use the compulsory improvement powers contained in the Housing Act, 1964. The Council also decided to carry out house improvements on a similar scale to the above in two of the older pre-war areas and the position at the end of the year was as follows:

	No. of houses in the Area	No. Inspected and Approved	No. Completed
Corporation Pre-war dwellings			
Spring Gardens	59	44	15
Ellis Street, Eckersley Street	25	23	11

Standard Grants

201 applications for Standard Grants were received during the year for some or all of the five amenities. 117 Grant payments were made to owners of houses where work had been completed.

Discretionary Grants

Many enquiries were received for the Discretionary Grant and all were investigated. This resulted in 72 formal applications being made, 71 of which were approved.

At the end of the year 77 houses had been fully improved and many were in the process of being improved.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION

No. of dwelling houses erected in 1967:—

By Local Authority	617
By Private Enterprise	437

Unfit houses made fit:—

After formal action under Housing Acts	1
After formal action under Public Health Act	20
After informal action	11

Houses in which defects were remedied:—

After formal action under Public Health Act	182
--	-----

Housing accommodation as at 31st December, 1967:—

No. of dwelling houses	26,146
No. of business premises with living accommodation	580
No. of licensed premises with living accommodation	125

26,851

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are now no common lodging houses within the Borough.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

This accommodation does not present the department with much of a problem. These houses are reasonably well maintained and managed.

No. of visits	64
--------------------	----

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TAKEN DURING THE YEAR

A local property owner had a nuisance order made against him for the completion of the repairs in 6 weeks.

RENT ACT, 1957

During the year 4 application were received for Certificates of Disrepair. In 5 cases the landlord gave an undertaking to carry out the necessary work within six months. 2 certificates were issued.

Three applications for the revocation of certificates were received. Two tenants objected to the cancellation of the certificates and two certificates were cancelled.

Section VIII

**Inspection and
Supervision of Food**

EXAMINATION OF WATER

Chemical Analysis

During the year 7 routine samples of water were sent to the Public Analyst for examination.

The results of these examinations, expressed in averages, are given below:—

	Parts per 100,000
Temporary Hardness	10.2
Permanent Hardness	2.2
Total Hardness	12.4
Alkalinity	10.2
Combined Chlorine	2.1
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.0007
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.0006
Nitrogen as Nitrites	—
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.08
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C.	0.08
PH Value	7.9

Bacteriological Examination

During the year 47 routine samples of water from the taps of domestic and certain business premises were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester for examination. 3 samples were not satisfactory.

MILK SUPPLY

At the present time only one small pasteurising plant is licensed within the Borough. This plant operating on the “Holding” principal is located on a farm adjacent to the milk sheds. Thus the milk is processed and bottled within a very short time of milking. A large proportion of this milk is used in the canteens of the large food factory who own the farm.

Other heat treated milks arriving in the Borough originate from a very wide area from Cheshire to North East Lancashire. Regular sampling of the various designated milks from all sources is carried out both for bacteriological and chemical standards.

No. of visits to dairies	15
No. of visits to milkshops	14
No. of dealers licensed for the sale of sterilised milk	279
No. of dealers licensed for the sale of pasteurised milk	154
No. of dealers licensed for the sale of untreated milk	4
No. of dealers licensed for the sale of ultra heat treated milk	35
No. of dealer (pasteuriser's) licenses	1
No. of persons registered as distributors of milk	286
No. of premises registered as dairies	1

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

215 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination:—

PASTEURISED:	104	All samples passed the Phosphatase Test, 102 passed the Methylene Blue Test.
UNTREATED:	34	33 samples passed the Methylene Blue Test.
STERILISED:	66	In all cases the Turbidity Test was negative.
ULTRA HEAT TREATED:	11	All satisfactory.

Brucella Abortus

Two samples were taken this year for the Ring test and both satisfied the test. Of the exceedingly small amount of untreated milk for retail which enters the borough it was ascertained that further samples were being taken at source in the adjoining authorities.

Chemical Examination of Milk

38 samples of milk were taken for chemical analysis. All were satisfactory.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There is no Egg Pasteurising Plant operating within the Borough. 10 samples of liquid egg were taken of which 9 proved satisfactory. A satisfactory sample should have a reading of more than 3 units to satisfy the alpha-amylase test. The failed sample had a reading of less than 1 unit indicative of gross under pasteurisation. Subsequent investigations revealed that the plant from which the liquid egg originated had been established and was operating without the knowledge of a nearby Borough Council. A letter threatening prosecution was served on the operator of the plant and the local authority in whose area it was situated took appropriate action. No further unsatisfactory samples were forthcoming during the remainder of the year.

ICE CREAM

There are three registered manufacturers operating ice-cream pasteurising plants located within the Borough. In addition ice cream manufactured by nationally known firms and other small local firms is also on sale. Both manufacturing premises and retail outlets are inspected regularly throughout the year in order that the Regulations relating to hygienic construction and practises and the pasteurising requirements are complied with. 9 such visits were made to manufacturers and 35 to the retail outlets. In addition 96 samples were taken and submitted for the Methylene Blue Reduction Test. This test is not a statutory test but one which indicates to the Inspector good hygienic practises during ice-cream manufacture. The results of the samples which show an improvement on the previous year are expressed in Grades 1 to 4 and last year's results are set out below:—

Grade 1	....	....	....	....	....	....	88
Grade 2	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Grade 3	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Grade 4	....	....	....	....	....	....	2

One sample of ice-cream was also taken for chemical analysis to ensure that the minimum nutritional standards were maintained.

Retailers

The number of premises registered under Section 34 of the Wigan Corporation Act, 1933 for the sale of ice-cream on 31st December, 1967 was 352.

FOOD PREMISES

TYPE OF BUSINESS	No.	No. fitted	No. to	No. fitted
		to Sect. 16	which Sect. 19 Applies	to Sect. 19
Purveyor of Meat	81	81	81	81
Fried Fish Shops	43	43	43	43
Grocery Shops	364	364	364	364
Green Grocery Shops	58	58	58	58
Bake Houses	45	45	45	45
Sugar Confectionery Etc.	287	287	218	218
Restaurants, Cafes, Snack Bars	43	43	43	43
Other Food Premises	93	93	93	93

Inspection of Food Premises

The following is a summary of the defects discovered at food premises upon inspection:—

Insufficient washing facilities	7
Insufficient personal washing facilities	33
Lack of cleanliness of ceilings	41
Lack of cleanliness of walls	50
Lack of cleanliness of floors	12
Lack of cleanliness of working surfaces and shelves	31
Lack of cleanliness of equipment	15
Defective floor and/or covering	41
Defective walls	32
Defective ceilings	24
Defective working surfaces	26
Defective equipment	15
No first-aid kit	16
No clothing cupboard or locker	16
Insufficient cover for food	10
Insufficient lighting	31
“Wash your hands” notice not displayed	25
Inadequate refuse collection and/or storage	25
Unsatisfactory toilets	33
Dirty and unsatisfactory storage	27
Inadequate ventilation	11

Education

Until this year no Further Education courses in Food Hygiene have been available. The bulk of the educational work has been done by means of individual talks on premises and by the liberal distribution of pamphlets generally obtained from the Central Council for Health Education.

By the end of 1966 a course designed for food handlers had been commenced at the College of Further Education. This course was well attended and the majority of the students sat for the "Certificate Examination in Food Hygiene and the Handling of Food" of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene with very rewarding results. In the autumn a further course with many more students was started and it is reasonable to presume that the results will be just as encouraging.

Food Hygiene

The interest of the general public in this aspect of the department's work continues to increase. This is shown by the number of complaints received about faulty handling methods, food being uncovered or containing foreign objects. Where it is possible a visit is made by the Public Health Inspector to the premises concerned in the complaint, the opportunity being taken to stress the special care needed in food premises by all persons engaged in food handling and ancillary processes, whilst a thorough investigation into the cause of the complaint is made. Advice is given to the occupiers where appropriate, regarding steps which can be taken to reduce the possibility of a similar occurrence. The fullest co-operation is experienced by the department from the management of the premises involved in pursuing these investigations.

This increase in public awareness of the part played by the department in securing hygienic production and sale of foods, is a great help in the task of educating the food handler in practical handling methods.

Markets

The Market Hall comprises a general market, meat, fish and wholesale and retail fruit market in one unit. Plans have been made for the wholesale fruit market to be moved to a new site on the south side of town. This will in turn release more space for the retail functions of the market building.

The traditional open market is still held on Friday and Saturday of each week. More control over the sale of food stuffs from such stalls is now possible, due to the provisions of the Food Hygiene (Market Stall and Delivery Vehicle) Regulations, 1966, which became operative during the year under review. The main provisions of the regulations are such as to bring the stall holder under similar control as that provided by earlier Regulations in other food premises. These are:

Provision of wash hand facilities with hot and cold or warm water supply, soap, nailbrush and towel.

Sinks or other suitable equipment together with a water supply and detergents for equipment.

Ensure the stall is properly constructed and covered to enable the food to be displayed without contamination.

The name and address of the person carrying on the business must be shown.

The stall must be well lighted.

The stall must be kept clean and rubbish must not be allowed to accumulate.

Persons handling food must not place it so as to be open to the risk of contamination.

Clean, washable overclothing must be worn and be kept as clean as reasonably practicable.

Clubs and Licensed Premises

Many visits have once more been paid to these premises for enforcement of the Food Hygiene Regulations and also in liaison with other departments as a guide to the licensing bench. The trend to building large new club premises in place of older ones which have been the victims of redevelopment still continues, two such large purpose-built premises being opened during the year. Full consultation between the architects and this department has been a pleasing feature of these buildings. During the year, 124 visits were made to clubs and licensed premises.

MEAT INSPECTION

There are eight private slaughterhouses in the Borough two of which are bacon factories the remainder being general purpose slaughterhouses. Much of the meat produced is "exported" beyond the town boundaries.

During the present year the most unfortunate incident was the outbreak of the foot and mouth disease epidemic which persisted from 25th October, 1967 to 24th June, 1968. This resulted in the decrease of slaughter within the Wigan Borough as the movement of cattle and sheep etc. had to be transferred to other areas, due to the fact that Wigan was classed as a "clear area," and cattle from infected zones could not be brought into the Borough.

As the local authority apply the scale of charges for meat inspection they received an income of £4,524 1s. 9d. a decrease of £505 14s. 6d. or 8.9% on the previous year.

An interesting case of generalized *Cysticercus Ovis* was found during January, 1967, in which the cysts were found in all parts of the sheep carcass. Portions of the sheep carcass and its associated offal were sent to the Salford Technical College for the interest of students, as this condition is quite uncommon.

No. of visits to slaughterhouses	....	....	....	....	....	3,934
„ markets	....	....	....	....	....	88
„ butcher's shops	....	....	....	....	....	101
No. of certificates issued (condemned food)	....	....	....	....	....	303

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED

				1965	1966	1967
Cattle exc. Cows	....	....		7,638	9,198	11,715
Cows	....	....		7,849	7,817	6,810
Calves	....	....		162	248	283
Pigs	....	....		34,569	32,279	25,404
Sheep	....	....		56,908	67,327	49,808
TOTALS:	....	....		107,126	116,869	94,020
Income	....	....		£4,668	£5,029	£4,524

Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing plants in the Borough.

Inspection of poultry is in the main confined to poultry offered for sale at the weekly open market. However, as most of the poultry are eviscerated before being brought into the Borough, the organs are missing or incapable of being identified with a specific carcass. Many of these birds are undoubtedly culled from broiler or laying flocks. This position is most unsatisfactory.

Carcases Examined During the Year 1967

	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	TOTAL
Carcases examined	11,715	6,810	283	25,404	49,808	94,020
Carcases totally condemned	9	15	16	31	14	85
Percentage totally condemned	0.08	0.22	5.65	0.12	0.03	0.09

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Horses
Number killed	11715	6810	283	25404	49808	—
Number inspected	11715	6810	283	25404	49808	—
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI: Whole carcasses condemned ...	9	15	16	29	14	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3599	3839	7	7968	6973	—
Percentage of the number inspec- ted affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	30.8	56.6	8.1	31.5	14.0	—
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY: Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	2	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	2	—	16	—	—
Percentage of the number inspec- ted affected with tuberculosis	—	0.03	—	0.07	—	—
CYSTICERCOSIS: Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	19	15	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3	4	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

The following meat and offal from the slaughterhouses was surrendered and destroyed, or sold for manufacturing purposes, during the year 1967.

	Whole carcase and all Offal Con- demned	Part of Carcase Con- demned	OFFAL CONDEMNED									
			Heads	Lungs	Livers	Hearts	Stomachs	Spleens	Skirts	Kidneys	Udders	Mesen- teries
Affected with Tuberculosis :												
Cattle (exc. Cows)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cows	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Calves	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs	2	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Sheep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Affected with Cysticercosis :												
Cattle (exc. Cows)	—	—	2	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cows	—	—	4	—	—	10	—	—	1	—	—	—
Calves	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Affected with other Diseases :												
Cattle (exc. Cows)	9	—	54	1275	3404	23	89	108	15	111	—	17
Cows	15	—	21	920	3231	23	86	47	27	203	1154	28
Calves	16	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Pigs	29	1	148	7732	2244	1064	15	11	—	35	1	77
Sheep	14	—	—	597	6852	17	1	—	—	4	—	2
	85	1	245	10530	15733	1155	191	166	43	355	1155	125

Summary of other Food Condemned, 1967

Meat	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,662 lbs.
Canned Meat	....	....	....	....	....	....	581
Fish	....	....	....	....	....	....	602 lbs.
Canned Fish	....	....	....	....	....	....	80
Fruit....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,472 lbs.
Canned Fruit	....	....	....	....	....	....	893
Vegetables	....	....	....	....	....	....	624 lbs,
Canned Vegetables	....	....	....	....	....	....	729
Canned Milk	....	....	....	....	....	....	37
Canned Soup	....	....	....	....	....	....	54
Packages of Other Food	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,963
Other canned or bottled foods	....	....	....	....	....	....	908
Fowl	....	....	....	....	....	....	194

All food condemned, other than meat, is destroyed at the Frog Lane Depot of the Corporation Cleansing Department.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955—SAMPLING

During the year 225 samples of milk and various other foods obtained under the above Act were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination.

SAMPLES TAKEN DURING 1967 :—

ARTICLES	Total Number analysed	Samples regarded as adulterated below standard or otherwise not complying with the prescribed requirements		ARTICLES	Total Number analysed	Samples regarded as adulterated below standard or otherwise not complying with the prescribed requirements	
		Number	%			Number	%
Angelica	1	—	—	Margarine	3	—	—
Apricots	1	—	—	Marzipan	1	—	—
Baking Powder ...	3	—	—	Mayonnaise	2	—	—
Beans	1	—	—	Malt Extract	2	—	—
Beef (minced)	3	—	—	Meat (tinned)	4	—	—
Beef (potted)	2	—	—	Meat tenderizer ...	1	—	—
Beetroot	1	—	—	Milk	38	—	—
Brandy	1	—	—	Milk (dried)	3	—	—
Brawn	1	—	—	Milk (tinned)	1	—	—
Bread	5	1	20	Mint	1	—	—
Butter	7	—	—	Mushrooms			
Cake mix	1	—	—	(creamed)	1	—	—
Cakes.....	3	—	—	Mustard	2	—	—
Carrots	1	—	—	Oil (cooking)	3	—	—
Cereal	1	—	—	Orange juice.....	2	—	—
Cheese	4	—	—	Peas	2	—	—
Cherries.....	2	—	—	Pepper	1	—	—
Chicken (tinned ...	2	—	—	Pickles	2	—	—
Chocolate drink ...	1	—	—	Pie	4	—	—
Cochineal subs. ...	1	1	100	Pie filling	1	—	—
Coconut	2	—	—	Potatoes	4	—	—
Coffee	6	—	—	Pudding	1	—	—
Cornflour	1	—	—	Rice	1	—	—
Crab meat	1	—	—	Rum	1	—	—
Cream	4	—	—	Sage	1	—	—
Crumpets	1	—	—	Salad Cream.....	2	—	—
Curry powder	1	—	—	Salmon spread ...	2	—	—
Curry sauce	1	—	—	Salt	2	—	—
Dripping	1	—	—	Sauce.....	4	—	—
Egg	1	—	—	Sausage roll	1	1	100
Egg bows	1	1	100	Shrimps	1	—	—
Fish cakes.....	3	—	—	Slimming tablets...	1	—	—
Flour	4	—	—	Soda Water	2	—	—
Franck	1	—	—	Soft drink	11	—	—
Fruit powder	3	3	100	Soup	2	—	—
Gin	1	—	—	Sugared strands ...	1	—	—
Gravy browning ...	1	—	—	Sultanas	1	—	—
Honey	2	—	—	Sweets	5	—	—
Ice Cream	1	—	—	Syrup	1	—	—
Ice lolly	1	—	—	Tapioca	1	—	—
Instant Please	1	1	100	Tomato ketchup ...	2	—	—
Jam	5	—	—	Tea	3	—	—
Jelly	2	—	—	Tomato juice	1	—	—
Lard	3	—	—	Tonic mix.	1	—	—
Lemon curd	2	—	—	Vinegar	2	—	—
Lemon juice	1	—	—	Wheat germ	1	—	—
Lettuce	1	—	—	Whiskey	1	—	—
				Yogurt	1	—	—
Action taken in regard to unsatisfactory samples is given on Page 113.					225	8	3.5

SAMPLES NOT UP TO SATISFACTORY STANDARDS

ARTICLE	No. of Sample		REPORT	REMARKS
	Informal	Formal		
Sausage roll	1		Contained foreign matter which consisted of a mass of cotton fibres containing a red dye.	Warning letter sent.
Instant Please	117		Food containing a substance, sodium-silico aluminate, which is not permitted in food by the Emulsifiers and Stabilisers in Food Regulations, 1962.	Warning letter sent.
Egg Bows	136		Not labelled in accordance with Article 9 (1) (a) of the Labelling of Food Order, 1953.	Warning letter sent.
Strawberry Powder	145		The term 'Strawberry Powder' was not a satisfactory description of the article. } The term 'Melon Powder' was not a satisfactory description of the article. } The term 'Grape Powder' was not a satisfactory description of the article. }	Letters sent to importer and wholesaler.
Melon Powder	146			Labels on existing stocks over-stamped.
Grape Powder	147			
Milk loaf	178		Bread devoid of milk solids and not conforming to the Bread and Flour Regulations, 1963.	Warning letter sent.
Cochineal substitute (Food colour)	205		Not labelled in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 7 (2) of the Colouring Matter in Food Regulations, 1966.	Supplier withdrew all stocks.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST

I am indebted to the Borough Analyst, Mr. J. Graham Sherratt, B.Sc., F.R.I.C. for the following remarks on the work carried out on behalf of the Corporation during the 12 months ended 31st December, 1967.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Total number of samples analysed	225
Number of samples regarded as sub-standard or otherwise unsatisfactory	8
Percentage unsatisfactory	3.5%

One of the above unsatisfactory articles, i.e. part of a sausage roll, was sent for analysis following a complaint by a private purchaser.

The total number of samples included 38 liquid milks, 3 drugs, 13 meat pies and other meat products, 6 butter, 4 cheese and cheese products, 3 cream, 3 margarine, 9 soft drinks, 4 spirits and 142 miscellaneous foods.

The sub-standard or otherwise unsatisfactory samples comprised:—

- (a) Sausage Roll. (Complaint).
- (b) A proprietary preparation intended as a milk substitute for adding to tea or coffee.
- (c) A proprietary article containing dried egg yolk.
- (d) Three articles of foreign origin, described as “Strawberry Powder”, “Melon Powder”, and “Grape Powder”.
- (e) A sample of bread, described as “Milk Loaf”.
- (f) Cochineal Substitute.

Details of the irregularities relating to the above samples are as follows:—

(a) SAUSAGE ROLL

This sausage roll was contaminated with foreign matter, which consisted of a mass of cotton fibres containing a red dye.

(b) MILK SUBSTITUTE

The food contained an additive, sodium silico aluminate, which appears to have been introduced to improve the flow characteristics and to prevent the possibility of aggregating of the grains of powder. Such a substance is a stabiliser, since its function is to maintain the physical condition of the Bulk material. Under the Emulsifiers and Stabilisers in Food Regulations, 1962, sodium silico aluminate is not a permitted additive.

(c) EGG YOLK PREPARATION

The label on the product included a general claim for the presence of vitamins, but did not conform to the requirements of Article 9(1)a of the Labelling of Food Order. This Article prohibits the making of a general claim for the presence of vitamins unless the label specifies, in a prescribed manner, the minimum quantity of each vitamin per ounce that is claimed to be present. The label did not satisfy this condition.

(d) STRAWBERRY POWDER, MELON POWDER, GRAPE POWDER

These were artificial preparations of dextrose, citric acid, colouring matter, flavouring and artificial sweetening agents. The descriptions emphasising the so-called fruit, were regarded as unsatisfactory.

(e) MILK LOAF

The Bread and Flour Regulations, 1963, require bread sold as "Milk Bread" to contain not less than 6 per cent of whole milk solids, expressed as a percentage of the total dried weight. The sample was devoid of milk solids.

(f) COCHINEAL SUBSTITUTE

This was a liquid sold for the purposes of colouring food. The container was not labelled in accordance with the requirements of the Colouring Matter and Food Regulations, 1966.

The samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act that are not referred to individually above were satisfactory. Articles that are the subject of statutory regulations or standards of composition conformed to official requirements, and those for which compositional standards have not been prescribed were of satisfactory commercial quality. No infestation of foods, such as cereals by mites, or contamination with dirty matter, was detected, and no instance of appreciable metallic contamination of canned foods occurred.

Composition of Milk Samples

The average composition of the milk samples analysed during 1967 is given below. Adjacent figures in brackets represent the corresponding averages for 1966.

Number of Samples	....	....	....	38 (50)
Average fat	....	....	....	3.68% (3.67%)
Average solids-not-fat	....	....	....	8.72% (8.83%)
Average water....	....	....	....	87.60% (87.50%)

Pesticide Residues in Food

Under the County Councils' Association's scheme for the testing of certain classes of food quantitatively for pesticide residues, the quota asked for from the County Borough during the year was 10 samples, comprising beef, potatoes, bread, cornflakes, eggs, full cream milk food, pork luncheon meat, lettuce, white bread and sterilised milk. The samples were examined by gas Chromatography for chlorinated Residues (e.g. D.D.T., B.H.C., etc.), and by thin layer chromatography and biological tests for organo-phosphorus residues; the eggs were also examined for mercury.

Only one sample, the pork luncheon meat, contained residues that were of any interest. The sample contained D.D.T. and its decomposition products to the extent of 0.059 parts per million.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926

Nine compound fertilisers and five compound feeding stuffs were analysed under the above Act during the year. One of the samples of fertiliser was unsatisfactory. It contained 3.9% less nitrogen, 3.0% more soluble phosphoric acid 4.0% more insoluble phosphoric acid and 4.0% less potash than the amounts of these substances declared in the statutory statement. The deficiency in nitrogen was 3.15%, outside the permitted limits of variation, and the deficiency in potash was 3.25% outside. The excess of soluble phosphoric acid was 2.5%, and the excess of insoluble phosphoric acid was 3.5% outside the permitted limits. All the other samples taken under this Act conformed to official requirements.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER

Seven samples of domestic water were received for routine analysis during 1967. They were all satisfactory and did not contain organic or metallic contamination.

Four samples were also taken for the determination of lead; these were taken after the water had been standing in lead service pipes overnight. Two samples, containing respectively 0.5 and 0.2 parts per million of lead, were unsatisfactory in this respect. One of the other samples contained 0.1 part per million of lead, which is verging on the unacceptable; the other sample contained less than 0.1 part per million.

Lead is on all occasions an undesirable contaminant of drinking water, and it is clear that, in the case of the first two samples, water that has been standing for any appreciable length of time in the service pipes should not be used for drinking purposes. A lead content not in excess of 0.1 part per million is probably acceptable in service pipes, since these pipes usually contain a small volume of water and lead will be rapidly diluted from the distribution mains.

J. GRAHAM SHERRATT.

Public Analyst.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Two prosecutions under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 took place.

1. A local firm of bakers pleaded guilty of selling bread as Milk Bread contrary to Reg. 15(1) of the Bread and Flour Regulations, 1963 and was fined £25.
2. A local garage company was fined £1 for an offence under Regulation 14 (5) of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

I N D E X

	<i>Page</i>
Admission to Residential Accommodation	77
Air Pollution	93
Ambulance Service....	6, 50
Analgesia	34
Ante-Natal Care	5, 27
Ante-Natal Clinics	28, 33
Ascertainment of Deafness in Pre-School Children	37
“At Risk” Register	36
Bacteriological Examination of Ice-Cream	105
Bacteriological Examination of Milk	105
Bacteriological Examination of Water	104
B.C.G. Vaccination	48
Births	14
Blind Welfare	80
Bronchitis	19
Brucella Abortus	105
Burial of the Dead	79
Cancer	19, 20
Care of Children under School Age	28
Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers	27
Care of Premature Infants	34
Care of the Aged	78
Care of Unmarried Mothers	28
Causes of Death with Death Rates	15
Cervical Cytology	7, 55
Charges for Residential Accommodation	77
Chemical Analysis of Water	88, 104
Chemical Examination of Milk	104
Child Guidance	30
Child Minders	32
Child Welfare Centres	29
Children Act, 1948	38
Children Neglected or Ill-treated in their own homes	38
Chimney Heights	94
Chiropody Service	60
Civil Defence	51, 89
Clean Air Act, 1956	93
Clearance Areas	100
Clinics	26
Clubs and Licensed Premises	108
Collaboration with General Practitioners	36
Common Lodging Houses	101
Congenital Malformations	28
Consultant Clinics	37
Convalescence	56

	<i>Page</i>
Conversions	105
Co-ordinating Officer and Committees	38
Co-ordination of Health Services	66
Cremation	89
Day Care Unit	65
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Welfare	84
Death Rates for the last ten years	18
Demolition and Re-housing	100
Dental Care and Treatment	30
Diphtheria Immunisation	49
Disinfection and Distribution of Disinfectants	74
Domiciliary Midwifery	33
Domiciliary Visiting of the Elderly	78
Emergency Obstetrical Unit	34
Examination of Water	87
Factories Acts	95
Family Planning	31
Family Service Unit	6, 40
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act	116
Food and Drugs Act	114
Food Condemned	111
Food Hygiene	107
Food Premises	106
Food Sampling	113
Handicapped Persons Welfare	80
Health Committee	2
Health Education	53
Health Visiting	3, 36
Holidays at Rockwood	60
Home Help Service	60
Home Nursing	5, 41
House Improvement	100
Houses in Multiple Occupation	101
Housing Accommodation	101
Housing	99
Ice-Cream Manufacturers, Retailers and Premises	105
Immunisation	48
Incidence of Sickness—Working Population	24
Infant and Young Children's Clinics	26
Infant Mortality	5, 14, 22
Infectious Diseases Notifications	7, 70
Infectious Diseases, Prevalence and Control Over	70
Inquests and Uncertified Deaths	18
Inspection and Supervision of Food Premises	103
Introduction	5
Legal Proceedings	102, 117
Licensing Act, 1961	108
Major Accident Organisation	67
Marie Curie Foundation	41
Market Hall....	107
Maternal Mortality....	22

	<i>Page</i>
Maternal and Child Health	26
Maternity Homes	22
Maternity Liaison Committee	35
Meals on Wheels Service	57
Meat Inspection	109
Mental Health Services	59
Midwifery	32
Milk Supply	104
Morbidity	24
Mothercraft	37
National Assistance Act, 1948—Part III Services	77
Natural and Social Conditions of the Area	9
Neo-Natal Cold Injury	34
Neo-Natal Deaths	14, 22
Nursery	32
Nurseries and Child Minder's Regulation Act, 1948	32
Nursing Equipment	58
Offensive Trades	93
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	96
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	34
Outworkers	95
Perinatal Mortality	14, 22
Pharmacy and Poisons Act	97
Phenylketonuria	36
Places of Entertainment	97
Pneumonia	19
Poliomyelitis Vaccination	48
Post-Natal Clinics	28
Premature Births	21
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	97
Prevention of Illness—Care and After-Care	53
Prevalence of and Control Over Infectious Disease	70
Protection of Movable Property	79
Provision of Health Services	25
Public Analyst's Annual Report	114
Public Baths	89
Public Cleansing	89
Public Conveniences	90
Public Health Inspection	91
Radio-Telecommunications	50
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations, 1951	93
Refuse Collection and Disposal	89
Registrar General's Short List of Causes of Death	16
Removal of Persons Needing Care and Attention	79
Rent Act, 1957	102
Residential Accommodation	76
Respiratory Diseases—Deaths	19
Retrolental Fibroplasia	34
Rodent Control	96
Sanitary Circumstances of the Area	87

	<i>Page</i>
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	88
Shops Act	92
Slum Clearance	100
Smallpox Vaccination	48
Smoke Control Areas	93
Staff	2
Standard Grants	101
Statistics	13
Stillbirths	14, 22
Temporary Accommodation	79
Tetanus Immunisation	49
Trade Refuse	90
Training of Nursing Staff	35, 37, 42
Training Centres	63, 64
Transport of Nursing Staff	35, 36, 42
Tuberculosis	19, 56
Tuberculosis Notifications....	72
Vaccination	48
Venereal Disease	55
Vital Statistics	6, 14
Voluntary Organisations	86
Water Supply	88
Welfare Foods, Distribution	30
Welfare Services	75
Whooping Cough Immunisation	49
Workshop Employment	84

